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BACKSTAGE COVERAGE OF COACHELLA PG. 8

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2015

THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO | WWW.THEUSDVISTA.COM

VOLUME 52 ISSUE 21

USD gets sued: student alleges mishandling of sexual assault claim

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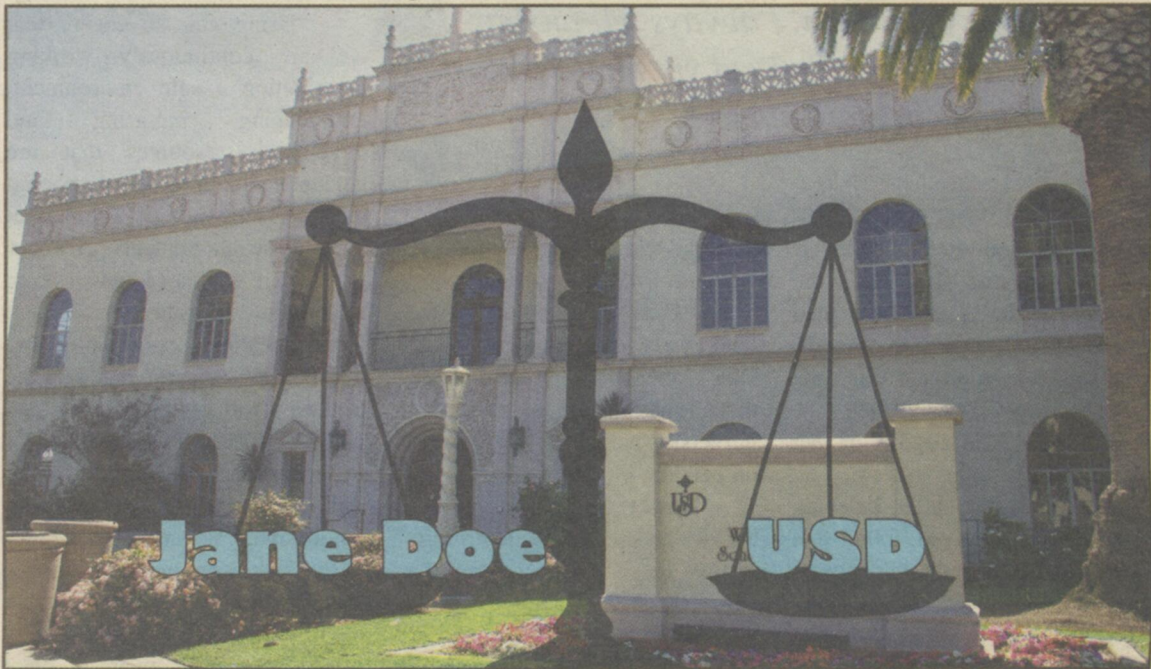
The University of San Diego was recently slapped with a lawsuit, and the complaint comes from a current second-year law school student. In the complaint, she is referred to as Jane Doe. She agreed to be interviewed by The Vista, however, she preferred to remain anonymous. In addition to interviewing Doe, The Vista has reviewed the legal documents presented in this case.

Doe claims that she was raped by two fellow male law students. In their response to the lawsuit, the male students claim it was consensual. She contends that, once her situation was reported to university officials, USD did not handle the case properly.

Jane Doe explained that this all started in May of 2013 at an end of the year party for first-year law students. Doe, along with other law students, attended the party which was hosted by a fellow classmate at an apartment off campus. In her lawsuit, she claims that the host and another male law school student sexually assaulted her in the bathroom during the party.

Jane Doe told The Vista that she went into the bathroom where both male classmates were already present. She said that, upon entering, one of them told her that she was going to have sex with both of them; Doe responded in protest.

"I said, 'No, that's not how



Jane Doe still attends the Warren School of Law despite her lawsuit against USD.

Kevin Nelson and Sarah Brewington

this works,' and then one of them grabbed my wrists and the other started pulling down my shorts," Doe said.

The lawsuit states that Doe was raped and was forced to perform oral sex.

After the incident, Doe said that she left immediately with a friend of hers. She explained that she was in shock and could not tell her friend what happened. But she remembers that they argued over whether Doe was able to drive. Doe disclosed that, after she left the apartment, one of the men, whom she accuses of rape, followed her outside where he told

her not to drive.

"I had been drinking, [...] but I was just trying to get out of there," Doe said.

Doe explained that she was driven to her sister's house closeby, where she spent the night. She did not tell her sister what had happened.

"I was in disbelief," Doe said. "I was hoping this was a nightmare, that I could just fall asleep and wake up, and just pretend that it didn't happen, or forget it happened, that it would be this nightmare that went away."

Jane Doe realized that the situation was not a nightmare, that

it was in fact very real.

"Instead I just woke up with this sick feeling in my stomach," Doe said. "I went home to my parents' house [after leaving my sister's house] and just got in bed, and I just felt sick to my stomach. For a few hours, I just got in bed and tried to decide what to do—should I go to the hospital, to the police? I was still wearing the same clothes."

"I just felt disgusting, all I wanted to do was shower. I knew that if I showered there would be no evidence," Doe said. "Everything I read told me that people never get prosecuted for

this and that you know that when victims do report things they get re-victimized, being asked what they were wearing, what they were doing. And on top of it these were people I was in law school with. I was scared of what people would think if I did report it."

Doe eventually decided that she would not report it. Her rationale was to keep moving forward.

"I thought, 'I need to move on with my life. I am in law school, I have responsibilities. I can't go through this,'" Doe said. "I went to school, then I went home and took a shower. I sat in bed and cried for a week. I didn't go to work, and I told my parents that I was sick."

Doe said a week after the law school party she decided to go to a mental health professional. She said that it took her weeks to open up to her counselor about what she says happened to her. Over the summer months, she told her family that she had been sexually assaulted at a USD law party.

Doe said that she struggled with the idea of reporting the incident; she said she was afraid of making things worse and reliving it.

"How would the process help me if I went through with it?" Doe said. "I was already traumatized. I didn't see the point, how reporting would help me. When I eventually did report it, it didn't help me, I just kept getting worse and worse and worse."

But her attitude changed upon
See LAWSUIT, Page 2

USD students struggle to get rid of their meal plans as the semester winds down

DANIELLE DEVRIES
CONTRIBUTOR

Each year University of San Diego students waste thousands of dollars on unused meal plans and dining dollars.

According to the university's website, the average meal plan costs approximately \$1,700 per semester, and meal plans are mandatory for freshmen and sophomores living on campus.

While students have to eat, many find their meal plans to be too expensive for their needs, and much of the money spent

on these plans ends up being wasted. Although some students take full advantage of their meal plans, others find themselves confined to a plan they know they will not use in its entirety.

The final few weeks of the semester shed light on whether or not meal plans have been utilized to full effect. While some students find themselves scrambling to save swipes and dining dollars, others have more than they know what to do with. For those with an excessive amount, the question becomes when and

how to try and use them all up to best get their money's worth.

Loryn Johnson, a representative from dining services notes there are several exciting opportunities coming up for students to use their remaining meal plans. These include a Cinco de Mayo celebration on May 5, Alcalá Night featuring Spanish cuisine on May 6, and a Late Night Breakfast event from 9-11 p.m. on May 11, all in the SLP. Additionally, prime rib buffets every Wednesday

See MEALS, Page 2

Three human skulls found in a cabinet in the anthropology department

CRASH KETCHAM
CONTRIBUTOR

Three Native American human skulls were found in a locked cabinet Thursday, April 9 in the anthropology department at the University of San Diego. The human skulls were used in classes to conduct research by a USD professor in the 1930s to 1940s.

Regulations under the Native American Graves Protection and

Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) do not allow for the use of Native American remains or funerary items without consent from their respective tribes. Because of this, the remains must go through a process of repatriation where trained professionals successfully return objects and remains to their place of origin.

These remains were used

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San Diego is suing Monsanto for its role in producing a pollutant

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From freshman year to now, seniors reflect on their biggest college regrets

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The fourth Supreme Drag Superstar was crowned at the annual event

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USD football to open 2015 against SDSU
The game will be played at Qualcomm Stadium

THE VISTA

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USD responds to lawsuit from law school student

LAWSUIT continued from Front Page

returning to USD in September of 2013. Jane said when she entered her Evidence class, she recognized one of her classmates. He was the same student who hosted the party back in May. The same student she claims sexually assaulted her. After class, Doe approached her professor. She told him one of her classmates raped her months ago. Doe said that the professor told her that they needed to focus on her well-being and to hold off going to the San Diego Police Department (SDPD).

Jane Doe's lawsuit said the professor brought her concerns to school officials. Doe then met with administrators and told them her story.

Doe said that administrators told her that they had no concrete evidence and no paper trail regarding her accusations. Because of that, they told her that there was not enough proof to support her claim. Therefore, USD could take no action.

But Doe did ask for something. She requested that the back door of her Evidence class be left unlocked. That, Doe said, would allow her to come and go from class without the fear of encountering the two male students.

Doe said that administrators agreed to comply with her request. However, the door was not consistently left unlocked. Doe claims that some days the door was unlocked and other days it was locked. She explained that this did not help her peace of mind or well-being.

In the spring of 2014, Jane Doe temporarily left USD's law school. She had a bad reaction to medication and the ongoing emotional stress had caused her

great anxiety.

"I got worse," Doe said. "Being on campus literally made me sick to my stomach. I always felt anxiety; I couldn't sleep, I couldn't eat very much. I lost fifteen pounds in one semester."

Doe returned to law school in the fall of 2014. She decided to request a no-contact order, a document that would prevent contact between her and the two male students who she says raped her. Following this request, Doe and the two accused men were all brought before a hearing board.

"I got worse. Being on campus literally made me sick to my stomach. I always felt anxiety, I couldn't sleep, I couldn't eat very much. I lost fifteen pounds in one semester."

- Jane Doe

The board consisted of a student, administrator and faculty member.

It was the first time the accuser and the accused presented their sides of the story to officials. Doe said it was around this time that she reported her alleged rape to SDPD at the urging of her psychiatrist.

The board, after listening to all parties involved, found that there was not enough evidence to support Jane Doe's claim. This was a disappointment to her. She explained that, between the inconsistency of the unlocked door request and the board's decision, she believes USD treated her unfairly.

"I felt like they pretended they cared about what happened to me, but, at the end of the day, they were really just protecting themselves," Doe said.

Following the hearing, Jane hired her own attorney, Dan Gilleon. Gilleon filed the lawsuit against USD this past February. The lawsuit claims that USD

mishandled Jane Doe's case and seeks damages.

Since the hearing board, the two male students have retained their own attorney, Paul Pfingst. Pfingst believes that Doe's accusations are false, and that any potential trial will find the same outcome as the hearing board.

"After this false accusation was made, a hearing was conducted," Pfingst said. "Multiple independent, non-party witnesses were present at the social event during which it was claimed an assault took place. [...]"

It is expected that, in the event this civil case proceeds to trial, the outcome will be the same."

University officials have filed a response denying all of Doe's allegations. It also denies that she has a legitimate claim. It is university policy not to comment on pending litigation.

However, Carmen Vazquez, the vice president of student affairs, assures the USD community that USD does not support sexual violence in any shape or form.

"One of our most cherished values at USD is our commitment to the dignity of each human being," Vazquez said. "USD's mission and its stated core values expressly affirm our commitment to creating and maintaining an environment characterized by respect for others, trust, safety, diversity and inclusivity. Sexual violence in any form is entirely antithetical to our mission and is not a tolerated form of behavior here at USD."

There is a resource on campus

called Campus Assault Resources and Education (C.A.R.E.), and Vazquez explained that it is a place for students to go if they need assistance regarding sexual assault found at <http://www.sandiego.edu/care>. She explained that there are advocates on campus that help students through the trauma of sexual assault.

Vazquez explained that USD is always assessing and reevaluating the issue of sexual violence. Vazquez consistently repeated that she is passionate about and deeply believes in creating a safe environment for students.

"Being able to ensure that we are continuously working on creating a safe environment, encouraging reporting and developing resources that are student centered, is very important to me," Vazquez said. "I think that I would want students to know that we are dedicated and working to promote a safe environment for our campus community and one that is dedicated really to the highest standards of integrity and respect for every human being."

Vazquez explained that this strong desire to create a safe environment is the responsibility of the entire community.

"Creating the safe environment is really very important, and ensuring that students have a place to safely report and get their resources and support services they need," Vazquez said. "I really think that sexual assault and sexual violence is a major health issue affecting college students. We all have to be involved in solving this problem, or eradicating this problem. It is not really one level of the community, it is all of us together. I really believe that if we put our hearts and our minds to it, we could make a huge impact in a

positive way."

Besides her lawsuit against USD, Doe also filed a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights. In an email on Jan. 8 regarding this complaint, President Mary E. Lyons also alerted the student body of a pending investigation by federal authorities. USD, among many other universities, is being evaluated regarding compliance with Title IX, the federal law prohibiting sex discrimination on campus.

"We take this complaint—and all reports of sexual violence—very seriously, and we will fully cooperate with the investigation," Lyons said. "[...] we continually refine our protocols, programs and policies [...]. It's on each one of us to remain committed to promoting a safe environment for our campus community—one that is dedicated to the highest standards of integrity and respect for every human being."

Doe said, even though she waited to file a complaint, she is confident in her decision.

"Ever since I made the decision [to sue], I have felt more and more strongly about it because I've since found out that I am not the only person who felt this way," Doe said.

Doe disclosed that she went to law school because it seemed like the right path, and USD was a part of that path.

"I thought law school would lead to a good career that was well-suited for me," Doe said. "I chose USD because I was born and raised in San Diego."

Jane Doe explained that she looks at the legal process differently now.

"It's a lot harder to take the law seriously, at least criminal law," Doe said. "I'm a lot more jaded about the legal system and USD in general."

USD students question the efficiency of the meal plan

MEALS continued from Front Page

night and the upcoming Mother's Day brunch in La Gran Terraza are great ways to use dining dollars. Students will also have extended access to the Torero Tu Go truck during finals as a last minute way to use up meal plans.

Even with these accommodations made by dining services, for many, using their meal plan in its entirety seems like a lost cause. Students with excess swipes will use them for miniscule things, like a cup of coffee or a bowl of cereal, despite each meal swipe for dinner and brunch at the SLP being worth \$13.65 according to the USD website. Others are generous and bring friends or family to dinner, hoping to use extra swipes on other people. And, while there are various ways to spend one's meal plan, at the end of the semester, there is hasty effort to get your money's worth, despite not actually needing or wanting to eat on campus.

One of the perks junior Resident Assistant (RA) Elizabeth Creech receives is a sizeable meal plan paid for by the university.

"As an RA, I have a large meal plan that allows me to spend dining dollars like monopoly money," Creech said. "Toward the end of the semester, I frequent La Gran and treat myself and some friends to a delicious meal."

This approach is one taken by many who find themselves having more dining dollars than they know what to do with. And, while it is relatively easy to spend extra dining dollars around campus, it can be often difficult to use up meal swipes.

On its frequently asked questions (FAQ) website, USD Dining Services said that although there are no refunds for unused meals, they offer many benefits to students.

"There are no refunds for unused meals, and meals do not carry over from semester to semester," the FAQ website said. "In order to maintain the low Meal Plan cost, your unused meals are forfeited at the end of each semester. Forecasted unused meals are factored into the original cost of the Meal Plan. USD Dining Services has the lowest Meal Plan rates out of the majority of

the university's peer schools."

Sophomore Alec Bangert commented that more options would help justify the cost.

"As the semester winds down, I wish I had more dining dollars and less swipes," Bangert said. "At the very least, there needs to be more opportunities to use swipes. Limiting it so that they can only be used during dinner and weekend brunch makes it harder to use them, making it next to impossible to get your full money's worth."

This can be especially frustrating for freshmen who do not even have the option of using some of their meal swipes as meal equivalences at the other dining locations on campus.

Freshman Emily Arnell expressed this sense of frustration when contemplating her remaining meal plan.

"I have over fifty meal swipes left right now, and I bought the cheapest meal plan they offer," Arnell said. "I'm wasting a ton of money on top of the thousands of dollars I already give to USD. I think it is unfair that USD just takes that money and doesn't allow our meal plan to roll over to next year."

Many share similar sentiments, seeing unused meal plans as incredibly wasteful. While most consider how they are wasting their own money, some students have considered the bigger picture.

The latest project for students involved with the Changemaker Hub is a film contest entitled "Food for Life." Out of the ten student-made videos, several touched on the idea of being able to use leftover meal swipes or dining dollars for good within the community.

One such idea comes from junior Dylan Banks who, with the help of his partners Will Jernigan and Nick Privitelli, created a video suggesting unused meal plans should be donated to a local organization to help feed at-risk teens.

"At the end of every semester, it has always seemed a bit absurd the amount of meal swipes that I hear friends say they have left over and will go unused," Banks said. "I think I speak for everyone when I say, what a waste!"


Banks and his partners argue that, rather than this money simply being absorbed by the school at the end of the year, students should

have some say about where it goes.

"We go to a school that prides itself on being a changemaker campus, so prove it; let's put our meals towards something worthwhile," Banks said. "Our video serves as a proposal to USD auxiliary services to donate a portion of all leftover meal swipes to San Diego Youth Services (SDYS), a local program that has helped homeless, runaway, and exploited youth for nearly 30 years, and relies heavily on local donations to do their work."

Ideas like this one are common several of the changemaker videos featured similar ideas many students hope to make the best out of their unused meal plans. All the Changemaker Challenge videos can be viewed via the organization's Facebook page, and favorites can be voted for accordingly.

With the new mandate on sophomores living on campus, it is unclear whether the school will alter its policy on meal plans or continue as is. However, as the semester comes to a close, it is clear that students are looking for ways to best utilize their meal plans.



PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT: DRUNK AND DISORDERLY CONDUCT

April 10 Location: Olin Hall

At approximately 11:30 p.m., the Department of Public Safety responded to a report of an intoxicated individual. Upon investigation, the individual was contacted and evaluated. It was determined that the individual could not care for themselves and was transported to the hospital.



April 11

Location: Missions Crossroads

At approximately 7:40 p.m., the Department of Public Safety responded to a report of an intoxicated individual. Upon investigation, the individual was contacted, identified as a resident student and evaluated. It was determined that the individual could not care for themselves and was transported to the hospital. Public Safety also confiscated a fake driver's license.

April 12

Location: Missions A

At approximately 12:26 a.m., the Department of Public Safety responded to a report of three intoxicated individuals. Upon investigation, the individuals were contacted, one was identified as a resident student and the other two individuals were non-USD community members and evaluated. It was determined that the resident student and one non-USD community member could not care for themselves and were transported to the hospital. The other non-USD community member was a minor, able to care for themselves and was released to the resident student's mother.

April 11

Location: Missions A

At approximately 3:48 a.m., the Department of Public Safety responded to a report of Resident Assistants discovering airsoft pellets from a previous incident. Upon investigation, Community Director authorized a room search. Public Safety confiscated the airsoft pellets.



April 13

Location: Pardee Legal Research Center

At approximately 4:29 p.m., the Department of Public Safety responded to a report of a theft of prescription medication from a purse at the Pardee Legal Research Center. Upon investigation, the medication was last seen on April 12, 2015 at approximately 5:00 p.m., and was discovered missing on April 13, 2015 at approximately 8:00 a.m.

April 11

Location: San Buenaventura

At approximately 2:07 a.m., the Department of Public Safety was made aware of Resident Assistants citing six students for Liquor Law Violations.

April 11

Location: Missions A

At approximately 2:19 a.m., the Department of Public Safety was made aware of Resident Assistants citing four students for Liquor Law Violations.

April 15

Location: Cuyamaca Hall

At approximately 12:32 p.m., the Department of Public Safety responded to a report of a Community Director who had discovered drug paraphernalia while doing a building walkthrough. Upon investigation, Residential Life Housing Director authorized a room search of the resident hall. Public Safety located and confiscated alcohol, marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Nora Brewington/The Vista

Native American community at USD argues for the fate of human skulls

SKULLS continued from Front Page

before NAGPRA was passed in 1990 and have remained in the department since. Each skull was labeled with a geographic origin: two from Alaska and one from the Colorado River Valley. Specific locations of the skulls, however, have not been determined.

A prayer ceremony for the remains was held outside Serra Hall earlier this month by the All Nations Institute for Community Achievement (ANICA), the Native interest group at USD,

as well as the Native American Student Organization (NASO). The groups placed an eagle feather, signifying strength, resilience and peace, with the remains before relocating them to another location until the tribal liaison and anthropology department can determine their original burial site.

USD senior Sloane Smith, president of NASO, relays the personal impact of the situation.

"As a Native student, it's difficult to hear about cases of repatriation because it's placing the burden of native folks made by the people who

have colonized us," Smith said.

The USD Native American community members have expressed discomfort at the remains being left on campus, especially with contemporary legal standards.

Persephone Lewis is both the tribal liaison and a professor of practice for USD. She believes the remains do not belong at USD.

"We are not a research institution; we are a teaching institution," Lewis said. "And there's not a need for that. It's a question for our campus community and the academic senate around the ways for us

to gather knowledge and the appropriate tools for us to teach."

Since the remains must comply with NAGPRA, Lewis believes USD will support the repatriation.

"I'm super optimistic about the situation," Lewis said. "USD overall is very supportive because folks don't want us breaking the law and agree with the ethics of having human remains on campus."

Despite her optimism, Lewis had further questions.

"What does it mean for a native student to come to class with human remains in a cabinet?"

Lewis said. "Anthropologists see it as separate from indigenous people, but for indigenous people, we are all related. These remains are our relatives."

Smith also expressed her uneasiness with the discovery.

"I don't like to be around remains that I don't know are present," Smith said. "I think if there are remains present, students should be aware before they are subjected to walk into that space."

The USD community hopes that the university will proceed with proper burial rites and a timely repatriation.

THE VISTA

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Letters to the Editor can be submitted to The Vista office. Letters should be limited to 300 words and must be signed. For identification purposes, USD identification numbers and writer's year must be included in the letter. The Vista reserves the right to edit published letters. Any content sent to the editor will be considered for publication unless otherwise stated.

Environmentalists Rejoice



BRIANNA HARRINGTON
BUSINESS EDITOR
@BNH1995

San Diego is doing the unthinkable and going after business conglomerate Monsanto. Many companies and individuals have gone up against Monsanto in the past, but have never been successful. I am proud to be a Californian because the City of San Diego is putting on its big kid pants and going after what they believe is right.

Monsanto is known by many for its role in pollutants and San Diego is attempting to put responsibility on them, and a few related companies, for the creation of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). PCBs are known to cause cancer and other health maladies. The claim against Monsanto is that they knew PCBs were harmful environmental hazards and produced and sold them anyways.

PCBs were created and manufactured in the 1930s through the 1970s. The City of San Diego is claiming that Monsanto was the sole U.S. manufacturer during this time. Monsanto sold the pollutants under the name Aroclor instead of its true name. The chemical was used for building materials, wire and cable coatings, sealants, dental castings, and a variety of other things. These harmful chemicals have been found in San Diego Bay sediments, water, and in the tissue of fish and other marine life. Monsanto claims no responsibility for the pollution and says that they had no knowledge that the chemical was hazardous.

Organizations and businesses shy away from going after Monsanto because it is such a powerful company with a lot of financial backing to keep it safe. I think that the City of San Diego going after this company shows how forward thinking and environmentally savvy we have become. Although the probability of winning is minimal, San Diego is still doing what they, and I, think is right.

Monsanto is being blamed for the production of these pollutants, but the City of San Diego is not blameless. They allowed the hazardous materials to be dumped in the bay. In 2014, the City of San Diego agreed to pay \$949,634 for permitting the dumping of hazardous chemicals and allocated \$6.45 million to clean the area. Through the lawsuit, the City of San Diego hopes to get money from Monsanto to compensate for all the money the city has put into attempting to clean up the bay.

USD engineering department renovations

BRIANNA HARRINGTON
BUSINESS EDITOR
@BNH1995

The University of San Diego is catching up with the current boom in engineering jobs. Students in the engineering department have cause to rejoice because their previously tiny workspace is being expanded to accommodate larger projects and more people.

USD's Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering is undergoing some serious reconstruction. The expansion would not have been possible without the donation of \$20 million from Darlene Shiley three years ago to create the program, and the financial backing by San Diego company, Cymer.

According to Union-Tribune San Diego, USD's engineering program is also receiving backing from various companies including: General Atomics,

Cubic Corporation, ViaSat, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Clarity, and Care Fusion, as well as San Diego Gas and Electric.

The expansion includes an idea center and a space filled with machines and tools for creating prototypes called Daniel's Garage. The total cost of reconstruction is \$4.5 million.

"What if a new population of engineering change-makers focused on engineering and peace, humanitarian engineering, sustainability and engineering, and/or health and engineering? USD change-makers will make an impact on the future."

This is the first phase of overhaul and upgrade that will lead to an engineering program that will be able to enroll up to 800 students instead of the current 400. This expansion is only phase one of a three-part renovation process.

Not only is the actual space being upgraded, the major itself is going through some changes. According to the dean

of the engineering school, a general engineering degree will be introduced in the fall and will have a concentration in embedded software and sustainability engineering. The plan is to add a bioengineering degree and a master's degree in the near future. Dr. Chell Roberts, dean of the school of engineering believes

change the world. What if a new population of engineering change-makers focused on engineering and peace, humanitarian engineering, sustainability and engineering, and/or health and engineering? USD change-makers will make an impact on the future."

The expansion is coming

-Dr. Chell Roberts

that USD will produce a new kind of engineer.

"[USD has] a holistic engineering education that includes a comprehensive liberal arts foundation [that] is key to producing our future leaders," Roberts said. "Engineers that understand cultural, historical, and social contexts and use this knowledge in solving problems and creating new products can

at just the right time, because the need for engineers is on the rise. According to Industry News, the United States will need around 250,000 engineers over the next 10 years alone. They will be most needed in industries such as oil and gas, aerospace, and renewable energy. It is also projected that 46,000 civil engineers and 25,500 mechanical engineers will be hired through 2023.

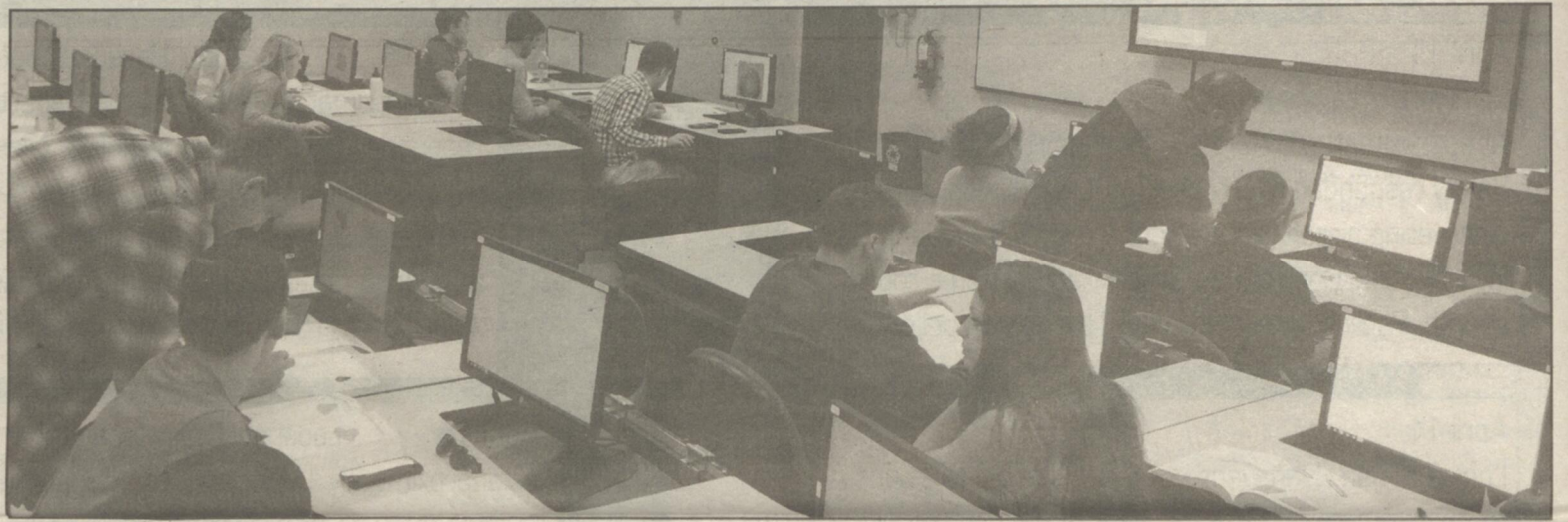


Photo courtesy of Jack Roccatto

USD's engineering department has just finished with phase one of a three phase renovation project.

Universities drop health insurance plans

RACHEL TRUONG
ASST. BUSINESS EDITOR

At some point in their lives, everyone winds up in the hospital. Unlike in movies and television, however, not everyone will be faced with the infamously large medical bill as a result of their stay.

The reason for this is because those people who are able to either avoid paying the bill altogether or pay less for that bill are covered by their health insurance. For the average college student, health insurance comes in two distinct forms: the insurance from one's parents and the insurance offered by their university.

Several universities are getting rid of their health insurance in response to the federal health care overhaul, a government program that will allow more people to have access to more affordable health care.

This is because a provision in the Affordable Care Act prevents students from using their tax subsidies to purchase health insurance.

Experts are divided on whether or not a university's decision to no longer offer health insurance would be beneficial to students. One expert who is concerned about the costs of colleges getting rid of insurance is Kaiser Permanente Universal Health CEO, Bob Trautman, who told the Vista about the pros and cons of using a college's health insurance.

"If colleges get rid of insurance plans, then a student's out of pocket expenses may be higher than they would be if

they simply went with a school one," Trautman said. "Students will either have to get the state insurance plan or be a part of their parents' plan instead. School plans tend to have lower deductibles, which really helps drive the prices of health insurance down, and they also tend to cover more for less money."

However, Trautman also told the Vista about the benefits of a student staying on their parents' insurance plan.

"You are allowed to stay on your parents' health insurance plans until the age of 26, some college health insurances are more expensive than the plans you would find on the marketplace," Trautman said. "It's possible that being on your parents' health plan can be cheaper and more beneficial. In the end, it all depends on the price of the plans

themselves and the terms that come with them."

The University of San Diego is one among many universities who have chosen to continue offering health insurance, which can be waived upon the start of each academic year.

USD's insurance plan provides coverage at 80 percent in-network and 65 percent out of network, as well as coverage in the case of accidental death or dismemberment. The insurance plan also offers prescription drug coverage with low copays and discounts on vision and dental wellness.

Some USD students have opted out of the health insurance plan, due to already having one of their own. One of these students is USD junior Jason Kane.

"Even though the health plan that USD offered sounded nice

enough, I'm already perfectly happy with what I had before," Kane said. "USD's plan can be pretty costly too, so I thought it was better to stay on my parents' plan until I'm 26, when I can hopefully afford my own plan."

Other USD students, such as sophomore Andrea Moore, chose to take the USD plan when it was offered to them.

"So far, everything has been okay, so I'd say the USD plan is pretty good," Moore said. "The benefits are nice and it's good to know that the school is looking out for me and my well-being."

As of the 2014-2015 academic year, all USD students are required to have health insurance. Students have a choice between choosing USD's health plan for an annual fee of \$1,852 or choosing their parents' health plan.

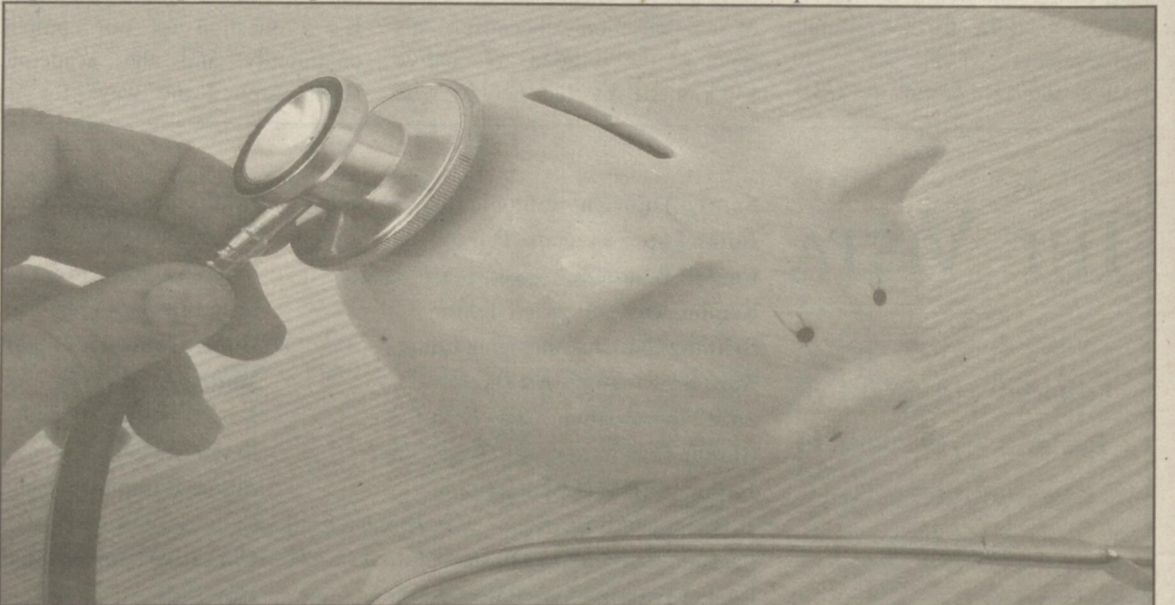


Photo Courtesy of 401(K)2012/flickr.com

Many universities have dropped their health insurance plans in response to federal health care overhaul.

Apple Watch pre-order trends

THALIA MORTON
CONTRIBUTOR

Apple Watch pre-orders began at midnight on April 10 and sold out about as soon as they went live. The Apple Watch is the first new product Apple has released since the debut of the iPad and is a highly anticipated gadget.

Even though the watch is not available until April 24, which is the official launch day, thousands of customers placed their pre-order last Friday with the hope of having it the day of release.

Those that placed their pre-orders within the first 10 minutes are the lucky few who will have their watches on launch day.

For all other customers, delivery dates have quickly slipped into summer. According to Techradar, the first Apple Watch sales had more pre-orders than Android Wear watches had sales throughout 2014.

Apple is offering three different models of the watch, ranging from the \$349 Sport Watch, the \$549 Standard Apple Watch, all the way up to the \$10,000 Edition model. The delivery date will depend on which model was ordered.

Such high demand for the watch could be attributed to Apple's new launch process, in which any and all orders for the watch must be made exclusively online.

Online exclusivity is a completely different method of releasing new products for Apple, as they usually have hoards of fanatics lined up outside the store at least hours

and sometimes days before the product is released.

The watches will be available in stores, but if you want to purchase or demo them you must make a 15 minute appointment.

An internal memo from an Apple retail chief Angela Ahrendts was obtained by 9to5Mac, a technology based digital news source. In the memo, it is suggested that in-

orders online right now[...]We expect this to continue through the month of May," Ahrendts said.

Among the watch's various abilities, vibrating notifications are included to alert users of new texts, missed calls, or any activity on their social media.

Students will not even have to take their phones out of their pockets, they can simply swipe up and down on their wrist to respond to a message

connected, and could possibly be a future distraction in the classroom.

However, for the watch to be fully functional you need to have the ability to connect it with an iPhone 5c model or higher. For the devices to connect they must be connected to either Bluetooth or a Wi-Fi network.

Jim Taylor, author of Raising Generation Tech spoke with Time magazine regarding the release of the smart watch and asserts

of ease of access, in a bad sense," said Taylor. "I think kids just need to look up more, and that won't happen here."

Even with the development of some critics already predicting the consequences of the new gadget, most USD students are oblivious to the Apple Watch's existence, and those who do know about the watch are unsure of its potential usefulness.

Senior Michelle Miller is unsure what the difference would be between a phone and the watch.

"I think it'd be weird to walk around talking to my watch," Miller said. "I mean it's basically like a mini phone on your wrist."

USD junior Justin Kern agrees that he has no use for it, but thinks that it could be a big hit in the future.

"The price is pretty comparable to other watches, but it's not really something I need," Kern said. "I think a lot of students may like it just because it's even easier to access than their phone, but that's really the biggest benefit I can see from it."

Regardless of the device, there will always be pros and cons and critics that rival fanatics, but the Apple Watch undoubtedly marks the beginning of a new trend for teens, young adults, seniors, and really all age groups that are interested in technology.

For some, the watch isn't just a device that tells time, tracks sleeping, and physical activity; it's also a piece of luxury.

Students may be seeing on campus soon, with the debut of the Apple Watch officially arriving this Friday.



Photo courtesy of Ryan Ozawa/flickr.com

Apple watches are not yet available in stores, but pre-orders began on April 10th.

store availability for the watch may be delayed until June.

"We are only taking

or check their Instagram.

This is another way

students will be able to stay

that users will now be physically attached to their devices.

"It's another level

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Mad at you,
Drizzy



JULIANA CURTIS
OPINION EDITOR
@julianacurtis28

After attending the famous Coachella Valley Music & Arts Festival this past weekend for free with a press pass, I have no cause for complaint. It was my first festival, and I can honestly say it exceeded all of my expectations. From the artists' performances, to the elaborate installations, to even the food, everything had me in utter disbelief.

If I could have done one thing differently, however, I would have skipped Drake's performance. Although it was not a bad performance by any means, I walked away extremely annoyed.

I had heard before that artists occasionally have surprise guest appearances, but I had no expectations besides possibly Tove Lo appearing at Alesso's show to perform "Heroes" (which did indeed happen). So when I was already vibing hardcore at The Weeknd's show, which was amazing on its own, my expectations were beyond exceeded when my all-time favorite artist, Kanye West, walked onto stage, blowing everyone's minds.

A performance that did not blow my mind, however, was Drake's. I've always been a pretty big fan of Drizzy, but I had never seen him live so I wasn't familiar with his performing style, which includes taking long breaks between every song to talk to the crowd. I found it rather annoying, as all I wanted to do was dance without constant interruptions to hear him talk about himself.

After teasing the crowd repeatedly that a guest performance was coming, Drake finally brought out Nicki Minaj in the middle of their song "Truffle Butter," causing the crowd to go wild. However, she didn't perform her verse. In fact, she never even opened her mouth, just walked on stage, hugged him, and walked off. This did not get a positive reaction from the crowd, as many screamed, "That's it?"

Since he started 20 minutes late and finished his set 30 minutes earlier than last week, when Drake ended his show, everyone in the crowd was sure that there was more coming. Many suspected that Nicki was coming back on for a big surprise. The lights didn't immediately flick on like they usually do when a show is over, so the crowd stayed put, even chanting for another song. After about 10 minutes of patiently waiting, the lights finally came on and it was made clear that nothing was going to happen. This upset an already irritated crowd even further, as many people cried out in anger and booed as they shuffled away.

Leading the audience on like that also caused many to miss other acts they could have caught before the festival was completely over. I was bummed to find Kygo's performance, coming to a close when I finally reached the other side of the grounds.

Nevertheless, it was an amazing weekend of talented performers, unbelievable surprises, and memories to last me a lifetime. And even though Drake may have put a damper on my Coachella vibe for a moment, nothing could ruin a weekend that perfect.

THE VISTA

College regrets told by USD seniors

From freshman year to now, seniors reflect on their biggest college regrets

KENDALL TICH
ASSOCIATE EDITOR
@kennytich

If all goes according to plan, I will be walking across a stage in the JCP at the end of May to receive a piece of paper that marks the culmination of my time as a University of San Diego undergraduate student.

Just four short years ago, I was walking up the front steps of Maher with stars in my eyes and budding anticipation for the years to come. Meanwhile, teen magazine and blog articles ran through my mind and across my computer screen, assuring me that these would be the best four years of my life and encouraging me to take risks, embrace opportunities, and say yes whenever I had the chance.

At the time, I wholeheartedly believed that I would follow through with that advice, grasping onto every opportunity, friendship, relationship, and experience that came my way, without the hesitation that I often had when trying new things in high school.

While we would all like to believe that we will make it through all four years of college unscathed, maintaining that same sparkle and glow that we all had as incoming freshmen, the reality of growing up is that you will be faced with difficult decisions. You will have to make seemingly impossible choices and will most likely look back on your four years here with at least a few regrets. That being said, you will still have the time of your life.

When it comes to having regrets, instead of dwelling on them, I have made it a point to turn them into lessons. For peace of mind, I'd also like to think that everything I considered a regret at the time, was actually

just another stepping stone toward success and happiness in the future. There are, however, certainly things I wish I had done differently in college, and it turns out that many other USD seniors hold those same regrets.

I owe so much to this university - my education, my best friends, my college experiences, and my future. I tried to take advantage of everything I could while I was here, but I certainly held myself back from becoming involved in certain things either because others were not doing it or because I was scared to do something different.

One of the many missed opportunities that some seniors look back on and regret is not taking advantage of the many important people who visit our school and the issues they discuss while on campus. Senior Lindsay Giles wishes she had gone to more speakers during her time at USD.

"My biggest regret is not going to very many of the incredible seminars and speakers that come to our campus," Giles said.

USD is fortunate enough to host some of the most influential people in the world when it comes to many of the issues our generation is faced with. Although I excitedly attended many talks at the IPJ my freshman year here, that quickly died out as I became more involved in other aspects of campus and my day to day life as a student at USD.

While college is certainly an important time to make steps that will positively benefit your future, it is also a reflective time to look back on the people and experiences that brought you to where you are. Having lived all over the United States and graduating high school overseas in Hong Kong,

I have always had to make an effort to maintain friendships long distance with elementary, middle, and high school friends.

Until college, it was easier to keep in touch with people, but once everyone is away at school, people tend to get wrapped up in their own lives and it becomes harder to keep in touch. Even though we get consumed by our new college friends, other seniors agree that it is important to still maintain contact with old friends. Will Gonzales is one of those seniors who lost touch with some of his old high school friends.

"My biggest regret is not staying in contact with some of my high school friends," Gonzales said.

"Since I moved around so much growing up, and came to college after living overseas, I chose not to study abroad. That is perhaps another one of the biggest regrets that many seniors, including senior Kevin Matthews have, especially at USD where nearly all students study abroad at some point during their four years.

"My biggest regret is not studying abroad," Matthews said.

At USD, we are fortunate enough to have a very well put together study abroad program, that typically works with students logistically and financially to assure they are able to participate in the program. Becoming a part of this program, and travelling with other college students to a country you are not familiar with is the best way to make sure you do not regret taking this chance to broaden your horizons and explore unfamiliar places.

On a more personal level, there were a number of opportunities I felt I missed out on because I was scared to act out against what I saw as normal

and acceptable. When it came to fighting for what I wanted, I often refrained from doing so because I feared putting myself out there too much and, in turn, making myself vulnerable. In relationships and friendships, I sometimes passively let things happen to me instead of speaking my mind and saying what I really wanted. In some of my classes, I shared opposite viewpoints, but instead of speaking my mind, I nodded agreeably with the rest of the class in order to avoid controversy.

It was not until fall semester this year, that I learned that controversy and drama are good in your twenties. I was in Dr. Leeva Chung's interpersonal communication class, during which she told us that it is better to deal with drama now than it is to deal with it later on in life, at which point it becomes less accepted and tolerated by others. So on that note, now is the time to strike up controversy, raise interesting topics and conversations on campus, and stir up some drama now so you are better prepared for it in the future.

Each regret I have had during my four years here has taught me a valuable lesson for the future. While there are things I would have done differently during my time here at USD, everything seemed to come together exactly as it should have, making college the best four years of my life so far. With that, it is my advice to all those who still have some time left here, to make the most of it while you can. It is not just a cliché that it goes by faster than you think it will, so take risks, put yourself out there, do what others have not and walk across that stage at the end of your four years here knowing you did everything the best way you possibly could have.

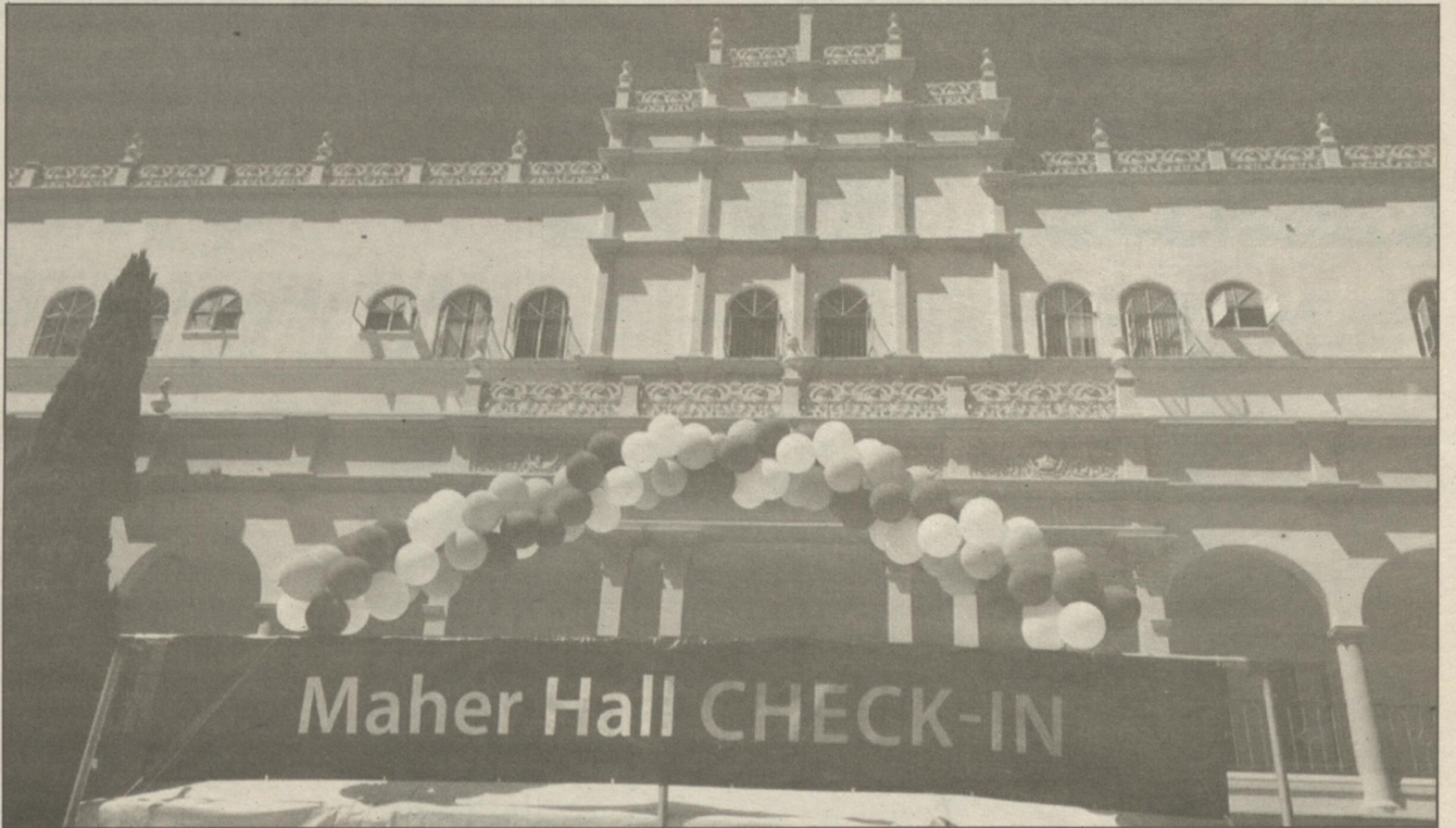


Photo Courtesy of Tayler Reviere Verninas

The first day of freshman year outside the dorms of Maher is just the beginning of the USD journey for many students.

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The Vista strongly encourages letters to the editor from students, faculty, staff, administration and the community.

Correspondence should be sent to **managing@usdvista.com** with the subject line "Letter to the Editor."

Submissions should be limited to 500 words and must include verifiable contact information. Letter content is subject to editing for clarity and style.

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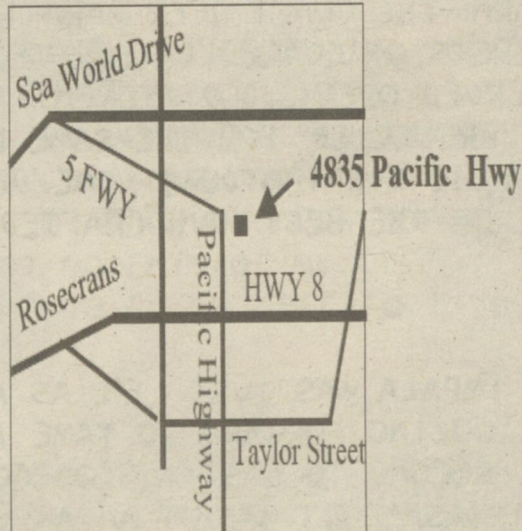
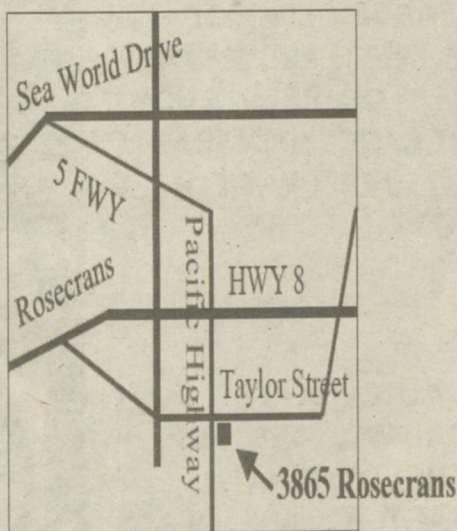
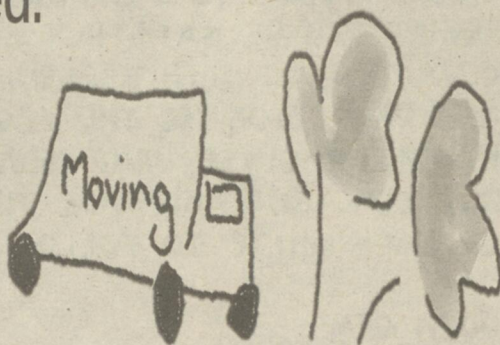
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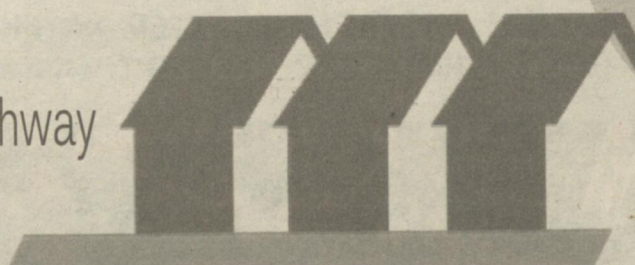
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KEVIN NELSON PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

TOP 3 ACTS

1. FITZ AND THE TANTRUMS: THE LOS ANGELES BASED INDIE ROCK BAND WAS THE LAST ACT OF THE WEEKEND ON THE OUTDOOR STAGE. THERE WAS A RELATIVELY SMALL CROWD FOR SUCH A PRIMETIME SLOT, LARGELY IN PART DUE TO FLORENCE AND THE MACHINE'S PERFORMANCE ON THE MAIN STAGE. HOWEVER FITZ AND THE TANTRUMS BROUGHT A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF ENERGY AND REFUSED TO LET THE CROWD STOP MOVING. BETWEEN THEIR FAST-PACED MUSIC AND HIGH ENTHUSIASM, THEY WERE EASILY ONE OF THE BEST ACTS OF THE WEEKEND.
2. ALABAMA SHAKES: SINGER BRITTANY HOWARD NOT ONLY ROCKS LEAD VOCALS BUT CAN JAM ON GUITAR. ALABAMA SHAKES WAS ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING LOOKING BANDS THAT PERFORMED DURING THE WEEKEND, BUT THEY SHOWED EXACTLY WHY THEY ARE TWO TIME GRAMMY NOMINEES FOR BEST ROCK PERFORMANCE. THE BAND'S MIX OF BLUES, SOUL, AND ROCK WAS AN INTERESTING CHANGE OF PACE FROM MOST OF THE ACTS, BUT NO ONE WAS OPPOSED.
3. ALT-J: WHAT CAN BE SAID, BUT WOW! ALT-J PERFORMED ON THE MAINSTAGE SATURDAY WITH THE SUNSET BEHIND THE DISTANT MOUNTAINS TRANSITIONING THE FESTIVAL INTO THE MAIN ACTS OF THE NIGHT. THE ENGLISH BAND NEVER CEASED TO AMAZE THROUGHOUT THEIR HOUR LONG SET AND MADE THEMSELVES A TOUGH ACT FOR HEADLINER JACK WHITE TO FOLLOW.

BEST HIDDEN GEM

THE CRAFT BEER BARN: THE CRAFT BEER BARN IS EASILY ONE OF THE BEST KEPT SECRETS OF COACHELLA FOR THOSE THAT ARE 21 AND OLDER. THE BARN SERVED OVER 250 DIFFERENT TYPES OF BEER FROM OVER 90 DIFFERENT BREWERIES. FOR THE SAME PRICE OF YOUR BASIC HEINEKEN YOU COULD BE SIPPING DOWN SOME DELICIOUS CRAFT BEER AND ENJOYING SOME OF THE BEST HAND-CRAFTED FOOD OF THE FESTIVAL.

BIGGEST LET DOWN

TAME IMPALA: TAME IMPALA WAS JUST ...EH. AS AN ALTERNATIVE ROCK FAN I WAS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO TAME IMPALA. I WAS HOPING FOR MORE FROM THE SECOND TO LAST ACT ON COACHELLA'S MAIN STAGE, BUT IT JUST WASN'T. IT WASN'T AN AWFUL ACT BY ANY MEANS YOU WOULD HAD TO CHECK OUT AZEALIA BANKS TO ACTUALLY FIND AWFUL MUSIC AT THE FESTIVAL BUT IT WAS JUST AVERAGE. MAYBE IT WAS MY HIGH EXPECTATIONS AFTER WATCHING ALABAMA SHAKES AND STEELY DAN RIGHT BEFORE, BUT IT WAS JUST NOT THAT EXCITING.

THE COACHELLA MUSIC & ARTS FEST IS A WEEKEND OF UNFORGETTABLE MUSICAL PERFORMANCES, BREATH-TAKING ART INSTALLATIONS, MOUTH-WATERING FOOD, AND SOME OF THE MOST INTERESTING LOOKING PEOPLE YOU WILL EVER SEE. IT IS AN EVENT THAT EVERYONE SHOULD EXPERIENCE AT LEAST ONCE IN THEIR LIVES, AND FORTUNATELY FOR US AT THE VISTA, OUR VERY OWN KEVIN NELSON AND JULIANA CURTIS WERE ABLE TO GET PRESS PASSES TO ATTEND THE LEGENDARY FESTIVAL THIS PAST WEEKEND. HERE THEY COVER THEIR FAVORITE ACTS, BEST HIDDEN GEMS, AND BIGGEST LET DOWNS FROM THE WEEKEND.

JULIANA CURTIS OPINION EDITOR

TOP 3 ACTS

1. DJ SNAKE: IF HIS SET WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH AS IT WAS, HIS GUEST APPEARANCES ABSOLUTELY SEALED THE DEAL. THIS INCLUDED RAE SREMMURD PERFORMING "NO TYPE," ALVINGEORGE WITH "YOU KNOW YOU LIKE IT," AND, MOST SURPRISINGLY, DMX PROVING HE'S STILL GOT IT, PERFORMING "UP IN HERE." THESE APPEARANCES COUPLED WITH DJ SNAKE'S ALREADY FIRE SET MADE THIS PERFORMANCE THE MOST MEMORABLE FOR ME.
2. THE WEEKND: OFTEN CALLED "THE SONGBIRD OF HIS GENERATION" AND THE "BEST MUSICAL TALENT SINCE MICHAEL JACKSON," THE WEEKND PROVED SATURDAY THAT THESE STATEMENTS ARE ABSOLUTELY ACCURATE. HIS VOICE LIVE WAS SO BEAUTIFUL IT ALMOST BROUGHT ME TO TEARS. AND IF THAT WASN'T ENOUGH, HE BROUGHT OUT KANYE. KANYE! I HAVE NEVER SEEN A CROWD OF PEOPLE GO THAT WILD IN MY LIFE, AS I DON'T THINK ANYONE EXPECTED TO SEE MR. WEST. THE WEEKND STILL HELD HIS OWN, HOWEVER, SHUTTING IT DOWN STRONG AND GIVING THE AUDIENCE AN AMAZING PERFORMANCE.
3. DEORRO: THERE COMES A TIME AT EVERY FESTIVAL WHERE YOU REACH A LULL IN THE DAY AND YOU NEED SOMETHING TO PUMP YOU BACK UP. FOR ME, I HEADED OVER TO THE SAHARA TENT TO BOUNCE AROUND TO THE THUMPING INSTRUMENTALS OF DEORRO AND IT WAS THE BEST DECISION OF THE DAY. HIS ELECTRO HOUSE TRACKS HAD THE CROWD GOING CRAZY, WITH A FUN ENERGY ON STAGE INCLUDING DANCING PANDAS. WITH A GUEST APPEARANCE FROM DRUMMER TRAVIS BARKER, A SURPRISINGLY ENJOYABLE COMPLIMENT TO THE HOUSE MIXES, DEORRO DEFINITELY DID NOT LET THE CROWD DOWN.

BEST HIDDEN GEM

DO LAB: I HAD NEVER HEARD MUCH ABOUT THE DO LAB BEFORE, BUT I NOW THINK IT IS EXTREMELY UNDERRATED. HIDDEN IN A SEPARATE AREA FROM THE REST OF THE TENTS, THE DO LAB IS ITS OWN COLORFUL LITTLE WHIMSICAL WORLD OF HARD-HITTING PERFORMERS AND CONSTANT SURPRISES. IT DIDN'T HURT THAT I WAS ABLE TO GET ON STAGE TO DANCE IN FRONT OF ALL OF THE MADNESS, WHICH WAS EASILY ONE OF THE BEST MOMENTS OF MY LIFE. IF YOU EVER HAVE A BREAK BETWEEN SHOWS YOU WANT TO CATCH, CHECK OUT THE DO LAB, AND I PROMISE YOU WON'T WANT TO LEAVE.

BIGGEST LET DOWN

DRAKE: OH, DRAKE. YES, YOU DESERVE TO BE COCKY. YOU ARE ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL ARTISTS OF ALL TIME. BUT DO YOU REALLY HAVE TO STOP BETWEEN EVERY SINGLE SONG TO REMIND US ALL OF THAT? I'M NOT SAYING THAT DRAKE ISN'T A GREAT PERFORMER, BUT IT REALLY KILLS THE VIBE WHEN YOU CONSTANTLY HAVE TO STOP DANCING AND WAIT FOR HIM TO STOP BRAGGING AND START UP AGAIN. ALSO, I AM INCREDIBLY BITTER THAT THERE WAS NO GUEST PERFORMER, ESPECIALLY AFTER THE GIANT TEASE OF HAVING NICKI MINAJ WALK ON AND OFF STAGE WITHOUT SAYING A WORD. OVERALL, VERY UNDERWHELMING.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF KEVIN NELSON

Take me back to Coachella



KAITLIN GOODHART
FEATURE EDITOR
@itsskg

The infamous Coachella. The two weekends where we forget that we actually care about showers and sleep, and head out to camp in Indio, California. The buzz of Coachella is endless. Starting the week before and ending weeks after Coachella, you can't walk around campus without passing someone talking about it. So what's the big deal? It's just a music festival.

For those of you who have not experienced Coachella before, I am here to tell you it is more than just a music festival. Aside from the incredible music, the Chella-vibe, and friendly fellow Chellavers, it's the possibility to feel free and unjudged. Whether people dressed up in a very Coachella inspired outfit like I did, or if they were in an everyday look, there was no judgment and zero standards. Coachella is a place for people to be their unique selves and let go of their fear of being judged.

Coachella made me reevaluate my life and how much pressure was put on me to look or act a certain way. Especially here at USD, we are under constant pressure to succeed, whether it's in our classes, in our jobs, or future careers. For most of us, we are judged everyday in one way or another. The hardest judge in some of our lives is ourselves. Why? We all need to take a Coachella-esque look at our lives and ask ourselves if the standards we hold are really worth the constant worry about grades or how we look.

Now, I am not suggesting you drop all of your responsibilities and pack up your bags to become a lone wolf. But, it wouldn't hurt your sanity if you lighten the judgment you place on yourself and how high your standards are. It's okay to get a B or a C in a class that you worked your butt off in. It is also absolutely okay to express yourself how you want to express yourself and not how others expect you to. Because what's success without any happiness? You should be happy with yourself and care a little less about what others think of you.

If you're one of those people who do not have a plan for your future, aka a normal and sane college student, stop stressing about where you should be and what you should be doing in life. Take classes that interest you and get involved with things you enjoy doing. Besides, life is what happens when you are too busy making plans anyway.

Lastly, get yourself to Coachella if you haven't had a chance to experience it yet. You won't regret it and you'll be reliving the excitement of the experience. Be yourself and your success will follow closely behind.

Before you eat, let me post an Insta

Learn about where San Diego's most instagrammable brunch spots are.

NATALYA KADZIAUSKAS
CONTRIBUTOR

with contributions from

BROOKLYN DIPPO
ASST. FEATURE EDITOR
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It appears that no meal is complete without being snapped, filtered with lo-fi, and uploaded to Instagram just seconds before it's devoured. As soon as the strawberry french toast hits the table, smartphones come out, table settings are rearranged and finding just the right angle to capture the essence of the meal becomes top priority. And if the latte has a heart in it, a picture of that has to be snapped and uploaded too.

And nothing is better for college students who want to sleep in on the weekends than the inbetween meal: brunch. These local spots are a step-up from the SLP brunch buffet but are still affordable options for students, costing each person approximately \$11-30 for a meal according to Yelp. All of them offer a variety of healthy and hearty plates to appease any appetite. The restaurants on this list also boast fresh juice and great coffee to chase your brunch.

Here is the breakdown of the top brunch spots all around San Diego that are absolutely Instagram-worthy. Not only do their menus and ambiance make for a perfect Instagram post, but the meals are mouthwatering too.

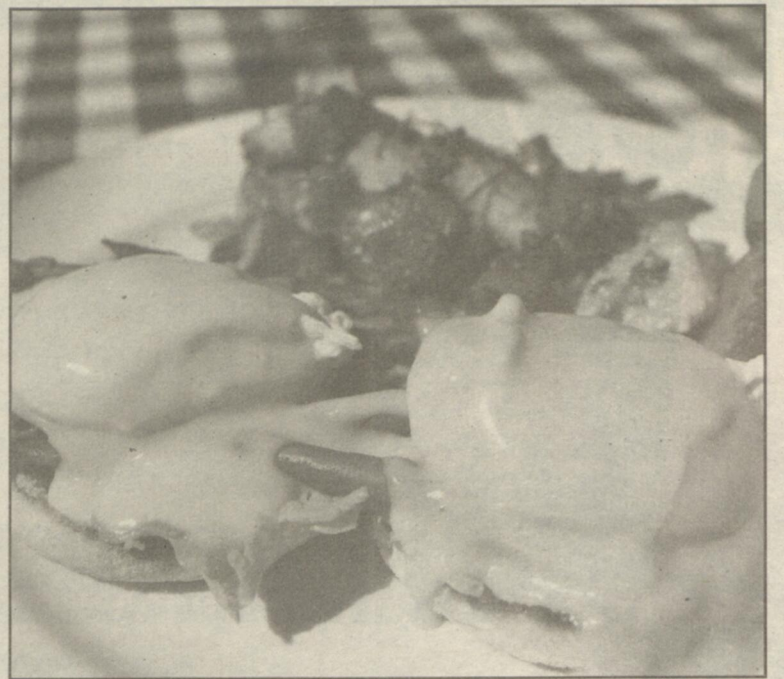


Photo Courtesy of Fig Tree Cafe
Atlantic lox (smoked salmon) eggs benedict from Fig Tree Cafe.

PACIFIC BEACH

Fig Tree Cafe

5119 Cass Street, San Diego, CA 92109

Nestled on Cass St. in Pacific Beach, Fig Tree Cafe will make you feel right at home. The quaint neighborhood surrounding Fig Tree Cafe creates a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. The outdoor garden patio feels like sitting in the neighbors' backyard. Stuffed french toast and breakfast sushi are customer favorites.

Fig Tree Cafe offers a variety of delicious twists on traditional breakfast options most of which can be ordered gluten-free or vegetarian. The french toast can be ordered stuffed with either cheese, mangos and strawberries or fig jam and ricotta cheese. As a side dish, the man candy is a must. Thick bacon

covered in brown sugar adds a sweet touch to the main course.

The breakfast sushi is another dish that foodies love at Fig Tree Cafe. Three bacon rolls baked in brown sugar wrapped around rice, scrambled eggs and scallions make for an unusual yet tasty breakfast.

They also serve up a flight of three antioxidant shots: Goji, Mangosteen, and Acai. Or for the coffee connoisseur, they serve a caffeine sampler with three four-ounce servings of a Latte, a Mocha, and a Mexican Mocha.

Fig Tree Cafe also has two other convenient locations in Hillcrest and Liberty Station.

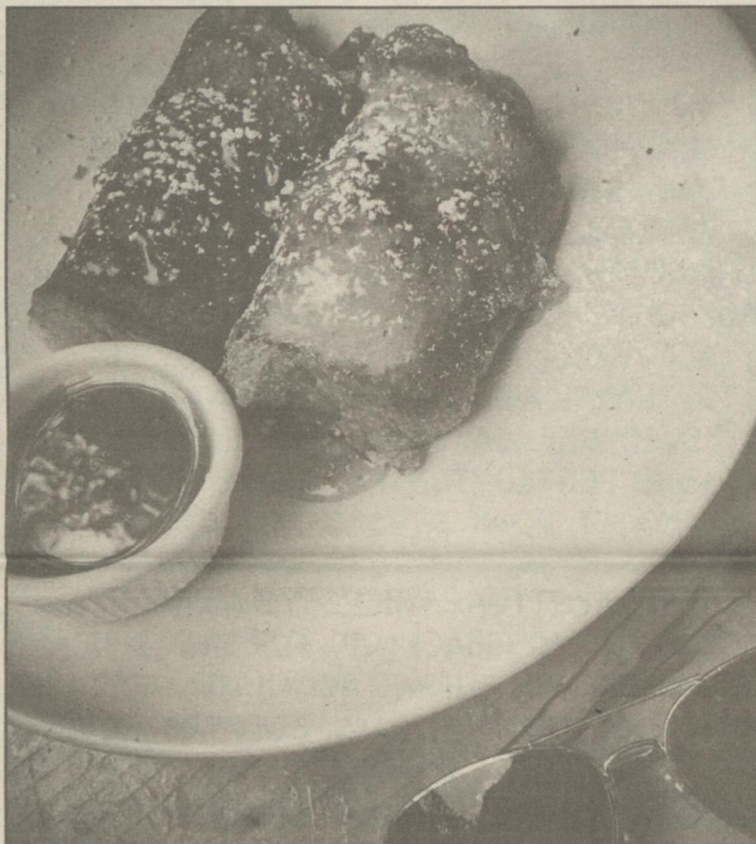


Photo Courtesy of Natalya Kadziauskas/Fig Tree Cafe
Stuffed fig and ricotta cheese french toast from Fig Tree Cafe.

LA JOLLA

Cody's

8030 Girard Ave, La Jolla, CA 92037

Known for its amazing view and even better people-watching, Cody's in La Jolla is a busy brunch spot perched on a slope above the cove. Recently remodeled, Cody's offers a modern and trendy atmosphere that still carries a laid-back vibe.

Warm up with a delicious cup of Kona coffee or cool down with a glass of fresh squeezed orange juice served in a mason jar. Choose between

traditional breakfast foods like omelets and eggs benedict or seafood starters like the lobster roll or grilled mahi mahi tacos.

Cody's most popular breakfast item on the menu is the crab cake benedict. Sitting on a bed of grilled potatoes, a jumbo crab cake tops an english muffin with fresh slices of avocado, poached eggs and traditional hollandaise sauce. It makes for an appetizing start to the afternoon.

HILLCREST

Snooze

3940 5th Ave, San Diego, CA 92103

Despite the name, if you hit the snooze button on your alarm you might hit the crowds at this local favorite. Be sure to get to Snooze in Hillcrest as early as you can because they don't take reservations and it is not uncommon to find an hour long wait.

The retro-inspired restaurant provides a hip atmosphere in a room bursting with energy. If you think pancakes are plain, Snooze will blow your

mind. Their variety of pancakes ranges from pineapple-upside-down pancakes and sweet potato pancakes to candy apple pancakes or peanut butter cup pancakes. Melt-in-your-mouth breakfast sandwiches, egg scrambles and hollandaise options with hash browns are more of a reason to come back multiple times.

If you are feeling especially adventurous, Snooze servers suggest savory ways that you can customize your order.



Photo Courtesy of Fig Tree Cafe
Breakfast sushi: bacon rolls wrapped around rice, eggs, and scallions.

DOWNTOWN

Cafe Chloe

721 9th Ave, San Diego, CA 92101

Located in San Diego's upbeat East Village, Cafe Chloe serves up French bistro dishes like the croque madame — a french ham, cheese and egg sandwich — or moles frites, mussels served with french fries. It's also a great place for a simple cup of coffee and a croissant.

The charming Parisian styled sidewalk patio creates an

upscale inviting atmosphere. Just as the cafes in Europe do, Cafe Chloe stays open all day, everyday. Breakfast and lunch are both served until 3 p.m.

Cafe Chloe's poached eggs with wild mushrooms and sage beurre blanc is a decadent favorite. Add a sparkling rose water or lavender lemonade to the mix and it is a picture perfect meal.

USD celebrates Earth Month on campus

University of San Diego is ranked the 14th greenest university and is celebrating Earth Month this April.

ALLISON AGRE
CONTRIBUTOR

April is Earth Month and the University of San Diego is celebrating once again. With events throughout the month centered around sustainability, USD is encouraging an earth-conscious mindset among the student body. Inspiring activism and environmental protection are among the main goals.

Earth Day, which is celebrating its 45th anniversary, is on April 22. First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day is now recognized internationally. The day hopes to bring awareness to the many issues that are plaguing the global environment such as pollution, global warming, and the scarcity of natural resources.

USD is not only

celebrating Earth Day, but is also hoping to inspire sustainable practices for the whole month of April. Attempting to become a Zero Waste campus is one of the actions USD has taken to reduce its environmental impact. The goal of zero waste is to not accumulate waste that will end up in a landfill so the use of reusable, recyclable, and biodegradable goods are applauded.

Because of these efforts, in 2014, USD ranked 14th nationally in Sierra magazine's list of the greenest colleges and universities. Earth Month is a way for USD to motivate students to take part in its green initiatives that have been nationally recognized.

The culmination of Earth Month at USD was the

Earth Day Celebration on April 21 during dead hours at Plaza Mayor. With the intent of enlightening USD students about sustainability, the event included music, free food, and giveaways.

Junior Diana Fontaine is a member of USD's Be Blue Go Green (BBGG) Team, which is USD's sustainability club.

"The goal of Earth Month is to educate students about the importance of sustainability," Fontaine said. "We must work now to protect the environment before it is too late."

USD students can do a lot when it comes to living a sustainable lifestyle.

"It is important for USD students, as a privileged group of people, to help make the

environment healthier through various actions such as water conservation, composting and recycling," Fontaine said. "These three actions are already a large part of the USD campus and as students, we can continue to strive towards a more greener future."

Fontaine strongly wants to advocate for monitoring water usage. "The main tip I have for students at USD would be water conservation," Fontaine said. "Since we live in Southern California, we must be aware of how much water we use! The drought is only getting worse and we should all work together to reduce the impacts."

These are the kinds of issues that Earth Month hopes to bring attention to. "If we all

work together, we can achieve a brighter and greener future on campus," Fontaine said.

On April 19, Balboa Park held its annual EarthFair to celebrate Earth Day and encouraged people to reduce their environmental footprint. The zero-waste event was free and featured a large number of exhibitors from many environmental organizations. The fair also incorporated music from local artists, food, and a magic show.

Earth Month events and more information on sustainability can be found on Be Blue Go Green's website. BBGG hopes to rally students to demand change for a more sustainable future and that is what Earth Month is all about.

Coachella 4 Lyfe, 10 years at the festival

The Inside Scoop: An interview with Ian August, a 10 year Coachella Music Festival veteran

KEVIN NELSON
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
@knel17

The first ever Coachella Music Festival was put on in 1994 and it has been running annually since 2001. Coachella can be a bit overwhelming for festival goers, especially for those attending their first music festival. However, there are some veteran festival goers out there that treat Coachella like it's their home away from home. This past weekend I was introduced to a part of a group that jokingly calls themselves "Coachella 4 Lyfe". Between the three men I met there were years of Coachella experiences, hundreds of acts seen, and thousands of crazy festival goers that have passed by them only to dream of having similar experiences.

One member of the group, Ian August, has been attending Coachella for the past 10 years. He started attending the festival when he was a student at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and still makes the trek down to Coachella every year from Half Moon Bay, California, about 45 minutes south of San Francisco.

The Vista: What brought you to Coachella in the first place?

Ian August: A friend who had gone twice before recommended it to me and offered to take me. It didn't work out until 2006, which was my first year, but it was the headliners, Tool and Depeche Mode at the time, that really drew me in.

TV: What keeps you coming back to Coachella every year?

IA: The same friend that first brought me called it his Mecca. I didn't understand why until my first year attending, then I was a full believer of the music, the people, and the experience and I couldn't wait to bring more friends and show them the awesome experience.

TV: Camping is a big part of the Coachella experience, what has your

camping experience been like?

IA: I have camped since I started coming. Mostly because it is the most convenient and cheapest option, but we like waking up and planning our day in our makeshift shade and then coming back at night and talking about our stories from the day. I guess we could do that at a rental or hotel, but sitting in camping chairs in the dark with some soft lantern light or the couple times with Xmas lights or other led based décor, it feels more special.

TV: What is your one regret from Coachella?

IA: My one real regret regarding the festival is not going sooner.

TV: What has been your favorite year of Coachella?

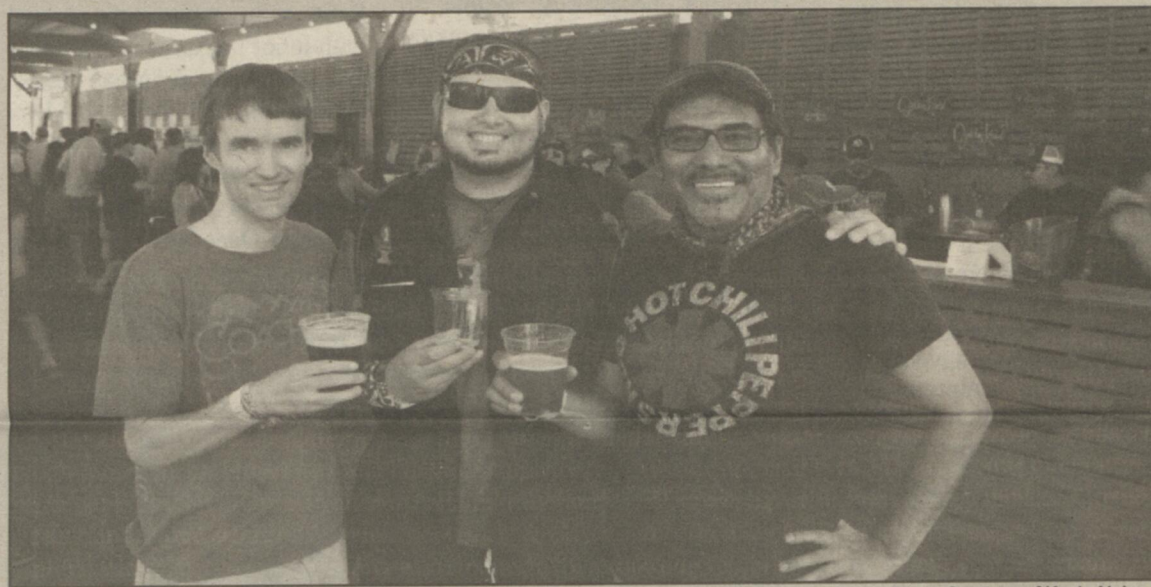


Photo Courtesy of Kevin Nelson

Ian August (center) pictured with two other members of Coachella 4 Lyfe at the music festival.

IA: My favorite year is probably 2006, the first year was so eye-opening and I will always remember it.

TV: What has been your favorite moment at Coachella?

IA: In 2006, late Sunday night we were sharing stories about our time at Coachella and over the course of an hour we had a few people join us at our campsite. We were first joined by a big frat dude who was drinking out of a giant plastic mug, then by a guy in a full on Winnie the Pooh costume, with a giant head face emerging from the front, rumbling tummy and all, and somewhere along the way our neighbor unzipped her tent to ask if she could join us because she was tired of laughing by herself listening to all our stories. So for the next hour or so we just talked about ourselves, where we were from, the acts we saw, and all our great experiences.

TV: You've seen Coachella evolve over the years what has been some of your favorite and worst changes with the festival?

IA: Favorite change would be the introducing a second weekend. When the original dates were moved up to conflict end of tax season [Ian is a Tax Manager at a CPA firm] I was very sad. And now with two weekends for people like myself and for others, like students with classes and finals, that have conflicts one of the weekends it means a lot more people can experience Coachella. Worst change I've seen is Coachella starting to become more of a scene and less of being about the music. The stereotypes build as it gets popular of course, but the people just looking to party for the weekend and only see a quarter of what Coachella has to offer has been disappointing. I don't mean to tell people how to festival, I just don't understand it, it didn't feel

like that back in the early years. Okay now excuse me while I go to tell the kids to get off my lawn.

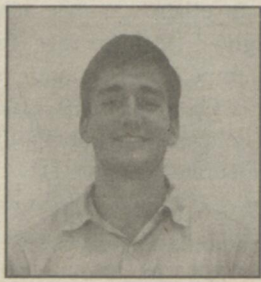
TV: What is your biggest piece of advice for Coachella goers?

IA: My biggest piece of advice is make it your Coachella, by that I mean do something new. Try listening to a new artist, walk by a tent and if you hear something intriguing go in. Don't let your friends or other people's impressions keep you from doing what you want and having fun.

TV: How many more years do you think you will attend Coachella?

IA: That is a good question. We jokingly refer to our group as Coachella 4 Lyfe. But dwindling attendance from core members, some now have kids or have moved away, so who knows. But for now, I don't think I have seen my final year yet, but it is almost time to check out some new experiences.

Bye-bye Blink



KEVIN KARN
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR
@kkarn7

Mark Hoppus. Tom DeLonge. Travis Barker. Seemingly ordinary names that will forever be remembered as one of our generation's most extraordinary bands: Blink-182. With over 35 million albums sold over the span of their 20-year existence, they encapsulated the teenage coming-of-age experience in a way that helped to make them the quintessential punk rock group of the 90's and 00's.

Their ability to infiltrate radio stations and stay relevant for so long is a testament to the impact they have had on countless individuals like myself. That is why today it is with a mixed heart that I officially bid farewell to the punk rock giants.

Now I know what many of you are thinking: "Ummm... Blink-182 is definitely still a band. I saw them at SOMA last month." I am here to inform you that no matter what it said on the ticket, it was not a Blink-182 concert. It may have had all of the familiar symptoms of one, with crude humor mixed between songs of teenage struggles and romance, but it wasn't one.

So what was it missing? Two words: Tom DeLonge. The captivating front-man and guitarist left the band for the second time in the past seven years and there is no indication of a return. Hoppus and Barker even went so far as to openly criticize DeLonge and say he definitely did not want to be a part of the band. The problem is that in a lot of minds, he is the band.

Barker is considered one of the best drummers out there and Hoppus lends his vocals on classics like "What's my Age Again?" and "The Rock Show." However, when it comes to the band's sound and what really makes them unique, it is DeLonge's signature voice and over-the top emphasis on every vowel sound that allow people to listen to the radio and know it's Blink.

Do I blame DeLonge for leaving the band? No, I don't. Do I like the fact that Blink replaced him? No, I don't. But this article is not about either of those things. It is to pay tribute to the man who gave life to songs like "All the Small Things." It is to recognize the man behind one of the most memorable verses ever on "I Miss You" and the powerful message on "Anthem Pt. 2." It is to honor the unpredictable glue that held the eternal high school garage band together.

DeLonge is an essential member of an iconic band and that won't change. No matter how long Hoppus and Barker insist on trying to keep the facade going, we will always be able to dive back into a nice Guitar Hero session or flip on some alt rock station to appreciate the band of San Diego skaters that set the rock world on fire.

Dazzling in Drag: USD Drag Show recap

ALYSSA RODRIGUEZ
CONTRIBUTOR

Thursday April 16 marked the fourth annual Supreme Drag Superstar Show at the University of San Diego produced by PRIDE in a grand celebration of gender expression. While providing great fun and entertainment, this was not the only motive for participation in the show.

Before the show began, a more educational approach was taken with a projection of terms and facts in relation to gender. On the inside of every program was a list of definitions of words and expressions which pertained to gender. Take the definition of Gender Identity for example.

"An internal sense of being male, female, or something in between," the program said. "Since gender identity is internal, one's gender identity is not necessarily visible to others. It is separate from sexual orientation."

As the show progressed, this message carried on. Some performers included rainbow flags and one guest speaker introduced the crowd

to eye-opening statistics on the correlation between the transgender community and suicide. For most members of the crowd such instances were expected. However, when USD sociology professor Greg Prieto went on stage in full drag to give a personal speech on his experiences and stance on gender, the whole crowd was stunned. The message Prieto delivered was similar to that of the performers who were interviewed.

Sophomore Crash Ketcham, better known by the stage name Ana Conda, stole the show and the title Supreme Drag Superstar with an unforgettable performance that included a long snake dress and unwavering energy.

The second place title was awarded to Senior Alex Gaggioli, otherwise known as L'Kitty Split, who excited the crowd with a hot performance centered around the plot of "Mean Girls." Who doesn't enjoy a good "Mean Girls" reference?

The third place title was awarded to two other stars, Salomon-Dane Hood, portraying

Stella Vanilla, and Brent Allman as Anya Goodside. Not only did they redefine gender, but they also redefined the meaning of "shake that body."

Drag queen wasn't the only title up for grabs. Avery Nickerson as Franki Stein and the Four Screams won the judges' votes with a spectacular "Thriller" performance and he was named Drag King. By the sound of the crowd's cheering you knew that they were nothing short of entertained.

Alex Gaggioli, a performer and senior majoring in Business marketing, believes the drag show is really important to a large community and opens people up to the idea of different forms of gender expression.

"I think the drag community is drastically misunderstood. I did this competition for the first time last year because I wanted to be a part of this amazing educational experience and because I wanted to win obviously," Gaggioli said. "Drag and this competition have given me the opportunity to express a part of my gender that is outside of societal norms. Just because you dress in drag,

male or female or somewhere in between, does not mean that you are gay, bisexual, trans, a freak, a Jesus hater or anything."

Freshman Salomon-Dane Hood supports the freedom this show provides.

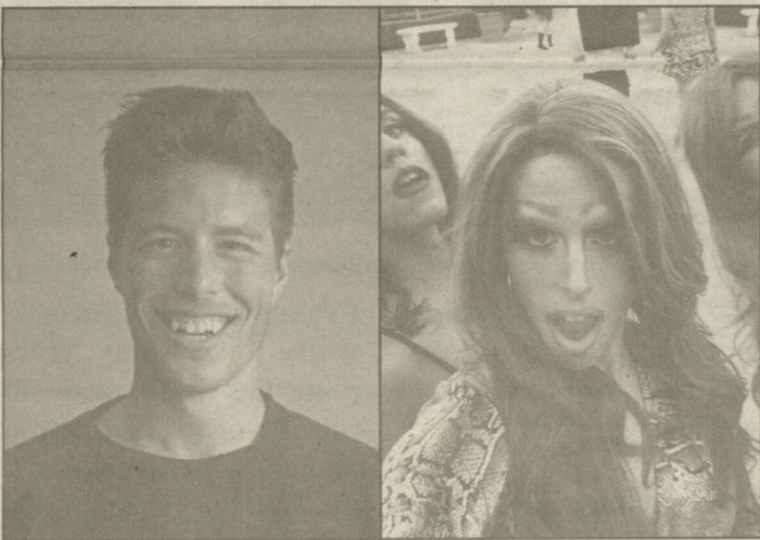
"Drag is one way for us to express a side of us that we don't normally get to," Hood said.

Sophomore Crash Ketcham views the show as an educational experience in addition to an opportunity to express himself through his performance.

"The Drag Show not only educates USD about the trans community, but it gives me the opportunity to perform in front of a really fun, enthusiastic audience," Ketcham said.

Collectively, these performers believe that drag allows each of them to express to the world what society asks them to hide; it expresses what society remains in ignorance about on a daily basis. The Drag Show presents the opportunity for the USD community to consider how the male/female identity is applied to people and gives everyone a chance to identify themselves for themselves.

Supreme Drag Superstar

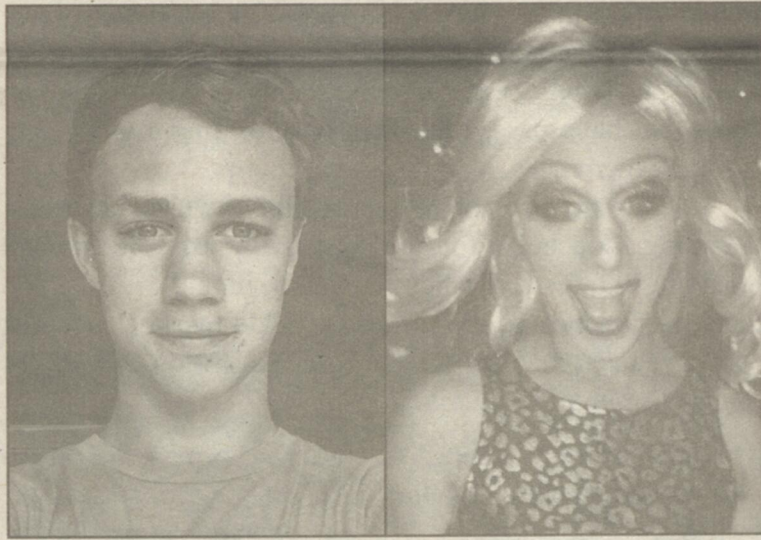


Crash Ketcham
AKA Ana Conda

Class: Sophomore

Major: Marine Biology, German minor

Second Place



Alex Gaggioli
AKA L'Kitty Split

Class: Senior

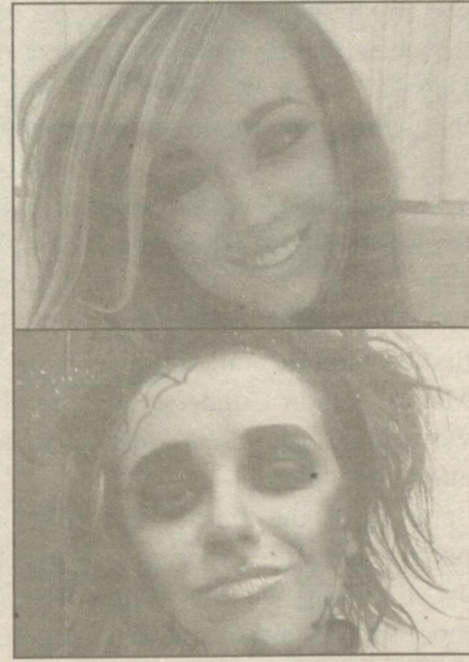
Major: Business Marketing



Third Place (Tie)
Solomon Dane-Hood
AKA Stella Vanilla



Third Place (Tie)
Brent Allman
AKA Anya Goodside



Drag King
Avery Nickerson
AKA Franki Stein

Clothesline project brings focus to violence against women

RACHEL LA DUE
CONTRIBUTOR

"You were supposed to protect me but I needed protection from you."

This poignant statement was one of many written on t-shirts that hung on a clothesline outside the UCs and the IPJ this past week. The Clothesline Project is an artistic installation put up annually by The Women's Center at The University of San Diego as a part of Sexual Assault Awareness Week.

The Clothesline Project originated in Massachusetts in 1990, and was created to address the issue of violence against women. Students are given the opportunity to create these t-shirts. They have the freedom to write their stories, their friends' stories, or specific facts about sexual assault that they find to resonate with them.

The official Clothesline Project website explains the use of color code with the shirts to show the different forms of abuse.

"White represents women who died because of violence; Yellow or beige represents battered or assaulted women; Red, pink, and orange are for survivors of rape and sexual assault; Blue and green t-shirts represent survivors of incest and sexual abuse; Purple or

lavender represents women attacked because of their sexual orientation; Black is for women attacked for political reasons," the website said.

Kathleen Thomas, a graduate assistant at the Women's Center and C.A.R.E. advocate, helped organize this project.

"One of the powerful pieces about the clothesline project is that it allows individuals to share their stories or the stories of individuals they care about in an artistic expression" Thomas said. "It's so colorful and it really catches your eye. It's not really something that you can ignore and that's a big piece of sexual assault. It's something people want to ignore but they can't because it either has impacted their life or they shouldn't because it's a community issue."

USD students have not been ignoring these shirts. For the past week, students have walked past these shirts on their way to class or a meal and many have been moved by their emotional sentiments and alarming statistics.

Freshman Meghann Long reflected upon what these shirts meant to her.

"I thought it was extremely creative and inspiring to see everyone's different take on sexual assault prevention," Long said.



Photo Courtesy of Flickr Creative Commons/C Smith

USD is just one of many campuses across the nation who have participated in the Clothesline Project.

Freshman Caitlan Bertram was taken aback by the many statistics revealing how prevalent sexual violence is within our society and specifically on college campuses.

"When I was walking past the IPJ I stood and read all of the shirts. It was really surprising to read some of the statistics," Bertram said. "I was shocked that 84 percent of rape is not reported."

This was not the only shocking statistic. The Clothesline Project also publicized that less than 5 percent of completed and attempted rapes of college students are brought to the attention of campus authorities and/or law enforcement, while 1 in 5 women are sexually assaulted in college. Additionally, 50 percent of transgender people report experiencing sexual assault.

This rainbow array of shirts is representative of the realities of many people who have been affected by violence. They are hung by clothespins and connected by string, standing in solidarity alongside each other. Their message is a vital reminder of the strides we should take as a campus community to support survivors and prevent future occurrences of violence against women.

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a1storage.com/usd



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2235 Pacific Hwy
619-633-3066
Access Hours: 6am-10pm, daily

Fashion Valley
1501 Frazee Road
619-537-8014
Access Hours: 7am-8pm, daily

Hotel Circle
2245 Hotel Circle South
619-621-8951
Access Hours: 6am-10pm, daily

Midtown
3911 Pacific Hwy
619-272-6078
Access Hours: 6am-10pm, daily

Office Hours: 9-6 M-F, 9-5 S-S

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A-1 Self Storage
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This Week's Events in San Diego:

23

**UNDERSTANDING THE
BLACK LGBT EXPERIENCE**
UC II3
12:30-2:00 P.M.

23

**THE WORD THAT GLAMORS:
POETRY AS PRAYER**
MAHER SALOMON HALL
7:00-8:30 P.M.
\$25
(21+)

20-26

L.I.F.E. WEEK
SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS
LOCATED ACROSS CAMPUS

23

**KAZE TACHINU FILM
SCREENING**
FOUNDERS HALL RIGSBY
LANGUAGE & CULTURE
COMMONS
7:00-8:30 P.M.

28

MATADOR AWARDS
IPJ THEATER
7:00-9:30 P.M.

29

**MY STORY: COMMUNITY
EDITION**
UC FORUM C
7:00-8:30 P.M.

Tebow Time



HUNTER JAMESON
SPORTS EDITOR
@HJamo

ESPN reported that the Philadelphia Eagles signed quarterback Tim Tebow for the 2015 season, which is a very interesting move. The Eagles already have Sam Bradford, Mark Sanchez, and Matt Barkley, so you wonder why head coach Chip Kelly would make a move for another quarterback on the roster.

Personally, I like this move because it will draw the media's attention and might bring a spark to the Eagle's team. Tebow was last on the New England Patriots before being released after the 2013 season. I would have liked to see Kelly make a move to draft his former college athlete at the University of Oregon, quarterback Marcus Mariota, but it does not look like that is going to happen.

Tebow is known for his spectacular stretch with the Denver Broncos, where he led them to the playoffs late in the season and for throwing the game-winning touchdown to beat the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 2012 American Football Conference wild-card game. On the first play in overtime, Tebow found receiver Demaryius Thomas running across the middle of the field, which left the fans at Mile High Stadium in Denver going ballistic as he ran for the 80-yard game winner.

Unfortunately, Tebow's luck ran out as he was ultimately released from the Broncos and left a free agent until the New York Jets signed him. He did not throw a touchdown with the Jets and found himself in the broadcasting booth over the last year.

In my opinion, it's sad that Tebow has not been given many chances to be a solid NFL quarterback. He has thrown 17 touchdowns for 2,422 yards and nine interceptions during his short NFL career thus far, but his completion percentage is what hurts him. He is a big-bodied, mobile quarterback, who does not play like your traditional quarterback would. But what Tebow does have is a ton of heart and determination that you do not find in every player. He is a valuable asset to a team in certain situations such as short-down situations and two-point conversions.

I think that Kelly has some trickery up his sleeve by signing Tebow. He has the big arms in Bradford, Sanchez and Barkley, but those three have not proven to be winners in the NFL, while Tebow has shown a glimpse of success. I am excited to see how this all plays out because Tebow brings something different to the table.

THE VISTA

Profile Piece: Morgan Kurtz

Information:

Hometown: Alpine, CA
Year: Senior
Major/Minor: Communications/Marketing
Sport: Softball
Position: Left Field
Bat: Left
Throw: Right

The Vista caught up with senior outfielder Morgan Kurtz of the USD softball team. The team is in the midst of a great season, in which they've had lots of success at home. Kurtz discussed her goals for the team, favorite part about playing softball and why she chose to stay home to attend USD.

Vista: What is your goal for this season both personally and as a team?

Kurtz: As a team, we want to win the WCC and have fun along the way. Especially in my senior year, I really want to soak up the last year that I will be playing softball. I have been given such an amazing opportunity to play the sport I love and I want to really enjoy these last couple weeks.

TV: How have you guys been doing this year?

MK: We have been doing extremely well. We started off preseason very strong beating Arizona State who was ranked 16th. I think that win gave us momentum into the spring season. We are currently in second place in conference right now, but we have been playing together as a team.

TV: What is your favorite part about playing softball?

MK: I love the sport of softball and the competition. But

Fun Facts:

1. I lose my voice after every softball game.
2. I love puns.
3. I have the biggest sweet tooth -- candy, donuts, cupcakes, anything!



Photo Courtesy of Morgan Kurtz

I also love all of the friendships that I have made along the way. I have been blessed with the best teammates over these past 17 years.

TV: What made you choose USD?

MK: I am from San Diego and growing up it was my dream to attend this school. It was also one of my dreams to play Division 1 softball. I was recruited by USD Softball and I think it took me less than 30 seconds to say yes to playing for them.

USD basketball challenges Aztecs

NOAH HILTON
CONTRIBUTOR

One of the biggest games for the University of San Diego basketball program each year is a matchup for city bragging rights against the Aztecs of San Diego State University. However, despite some competitive matchups in recent years—the Toreros dropped the 2013 game by just a single point—the series appeared bound for a hiatus, with the expiration of a four-year contract between the schools and both programs heading in drastically different directions.

The Aztecs have continued their ascent into the upper echelon of college basketball, regularly finishing in the Top 25, while the Toreros have struggled in recent years to stay above a .500 record, so the heavily-favored SDSU squad has more pressure, while the toreros have nothing to lose.

SDSU athletic director Jim Sterk hatched a plan to continue outdoor basketball for the Aztecs. The games that SDSU played on U.S. aircraft carriers the past few seasons, while well-intended, struggled with slippery courts and less-than-stellar weather. His new target: downtown San Diego's baseball palace, Petco Park. Discussions with San Diego Padres owner Ron Fowler were promising, but met

with one condition: Fowler, one of the biggest boosters of Toreros athletics, wanted the Aztecs to face off against USD instead of a high-profile powerhouse from the Big East or ACC.

As a result, the annual rivalry game, to be played in early December, will be continued for at least another year. It is rumored that the set-up will be similar to the tennis courts that were designed for the Davis Cup last year, with seating nearing 20,000.

That means that the court will be nestled into the left-field corner of the stadium, with the landmark Western Metal Supply Co. building hopefully blocking the winds that have plagued shooting during games on the aircraft carriers. In SDSU's game against Syracuse on the USS Midway in 2012, the Aztecs shot just 1-of-18 on three-pointers.

The matchup should be a boon for the Toreros program. First and foremost, the game will hopefully serve as the spark the Toreros have been looking for to help them return to local prominence after long sitting in the shadow of the Aztecs. It is no secret that interest in the program from the San Diego community has been waning. As such, a strong showing against SDSU, especially following



Photo Courtesy of Flickr/SD Dirk

Kawhi Leonard is one of many players to play in the rivalry game.

the highly-anticipated football showdown between the two schools at Qualcomm Stadium in September, will hopefully be a springboard for conference success in 2015-16 and beyond, as well as a needed boost to the enthusiasm of the USD faithful.

Furthermore, the game will serve as a great coming-out party for recently-arrived Toreros head coach Lamont Smith. With nine straight victories for the Aztecs in the series, USD will no doubt be considered the underdog going into the game. However, with a close game against the crosstown rivals or, dare we hope, an upset, Smith can show off his newly-inherited squad and announce his presence as a force to be reckoned with among San Diego basketball pundits.

Even with the game more than eight months away, USD's hoopsters are already looking forward to the contest. Junior forward Brett Bailey is excited about the opportunity to compete in a new atmosphere.

"I think it'll be a great opportunity for our team and for the school," Bailey said. "None of us have ever played in that type of environment before so it will be an awesome experience. Anytime we get to play in a big arena is pretty cool but being at Petco would just make it that much better."

More details in regards to ticket prices and a set date for the game are expected to come in the near future as America's Finest City prepares to crown its basketball king once again.

Dodger Stadium brings historic vibe

Petco Park has a much more modern look than the stadium in Los Angeles

MATTHEW ROBERSON
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As Major League Baseball teams across the country transition into new age stadiums with state of the art video boards and billion dollar budgets, one ballpark in Los Angeles remains a relatively untouched haven of baseball.

Dodger Stadium, home to the Dodgers since 1962, represents the nostalgic and old school aesthetics that Fenway Park brings to the East Coast and Wrigley Field offers the Midwest.

I attended my first game at Dodger Stadium on Sunday, April 19. As is usually the case, it was a picturesque day for baseball in Los Angeles, with the sun shining down on a sea of blue clad Dodger fans. Seated in the second row of the left field bleachers, I had an excellent view of the Dodgers' 7-0 victory over the Colorado Rockies.

While the product on the field was great, it was the overall experience which made Dodger Stadium such a prime destination.

While Petco Park, home of the San Diego Padres since 2004 is a wonderful place to watch a baseball game, it lacks much of the charm and mystique which makes Dodger Stadium

so special. Immediately upon entering the gates at Dodger Stadium, one feels as though they are in a baseball museum.

From the walls of names honoring all the Dodger players to make the All-Star team, to the murals of all the franchise's Cy Young and Most Valuable Player award winners, to the section of Italian concession stands honoring fabled Dodger manager Tommy Lasorda, the park has several historical aspects which blow Petco Park out of the water.

In terms of location, the two ballparks are also entirely different. Petco Park, nestled comfortably into the downtown setting of the Gaslamp District, feels as if it was spawned from the other buildings of the city's skyline. Dodger Stadium, in complete contrast, is situated in the heart of the Chavez Ravine community in Solano Canyon.

Views of the adjacent downtown skyline are available, but by no means is the stadium squeezed between buildings like Petco Park is.

Rather, Dodger Stadium is surrounded by an enormous parking lot, eliminating the parking nightmare which haunts Petco Park.

Instead of having to navigate the busy streets of downtown San Diego looking for an elusive

parking space, Dodger Stadium allows you to park in their spacious lot and walk no more than ten minutes to reach the gate. Granted, this takes away the big city vibe that many baseball fans have grown to love. But for a place like Dodger Stadium the vibes have been ingrained in the architecture since the 1960s and have no reason to be altered.

If you fancy yourself as part of the new wave of baseball fans, enamored with analytics and Moneyball strategies, a downtown corporate environment might be perfect for you.

Petco Park recently underwent renovations which included a 7,500 square foot video board and upgraded speaker system, showing the Padres organization's desire to provide the ballpark with 21st century amenities.

Combine that with the famous Western Metal Supply Company building which doubles as left field seats, and the sandbox area in right center field and you have one of Major League Baseball's most unique ballparks right here in San Diego.

However, for this baseball fan, Dodger Stadium presents hundreds of things that Petco Park cannot. Many of these are purely baseball related, as Dodger Stadium holds much more history



Photo Courtesy of Flickr/The West End

The legendary Dodger Stadium is the polar opposite of Petco Park.

than the 11 year-old Petco Park does. Knowing that baseball legends from Sandy Koufax to Don Drysdale to Fernando Valenzuela have stood atop the same mound that current Dodger ace Clayton Kershaw inhabits made me feel like I was watching a game played at a baseball cathedral. The simple, non-flashy look and feel of the park really drives home this historic feeling.

Aside from that, Dodger Stadium features several other classics of Major League Baseball lore. I munched on a Dodger Dog, batted a beach ball into the LA sky and listened to the iconic voice of Vin Scully flow through the PA system. It was everything I hoped my first Dodger Stadium experience would be.

For those of you hoping to capture some of this same feeling, I would absolutely recommend grabbing some friends and road tripping two hours north for a Dodger game, especially for a Sunday day game on a sunny Southern California afternoon.

Even if you're not in love with the sport of baseball and its slow pace, the atmosphere at Dodger Stadium will have you hooked.

The left field bleachers where I was sitting felt like one big party, with strangers young and old gathering together to spend three hours in the sun together. If the Dodgers win like they did on Sunday, the party becomes that much more enjoyable.

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USD Football set to play SDSU in 2015

The Toreros open next season at Qualcomm Stadium against the Aztecs

NICOLE STEINMETZ
CONTRIBUTOR

The University of San Diego is long overdue for a crosstown football rivalry. Recent schedule changes have made this dream a reality, and it's about time this rivalry is taken to a whole new level.

For the first time in over 50 years, the USD Toreros will take on the San Diego State Aztecs in their season opener game, which will mark only the second time the football teams have ever played against each other. On September 5, 2015 both of these San Diego football teams will kick off their seasons against each other at Qualcomm Stadium, home of the San Diego Chargers.

The opportunity to play SDSU became available when the Aztecs had some schedule changes, leaving them with a hole to fill. The Aztecs could have either left their schedule at 11 games, or pick up a game against the Toreros. SDSU athletic director, Jim Sterk, saw it as an excellent opportunity in a number of ways and agreed to this San Diego football battle. USD athletic director Ky Snyder jumped at the chance to be able to play the Aztecs for more reasons than one.

Athletic directors, coaches, players, and even students would

agree that this would create a unique sporting event. It provides both universities a chance to showcase San Diego athletics in a rare opportunity for these two teams to come together on the gridiron. This rivalry game will add to the already existing USD vs. SDSU competitiveness across many sports between the schools. The publicity of the game will promote the competitive rivalry between the schools and offer yet another chance to bring the city together.

Not only is it an awesome experience for the entire student body at USD, but it also gives these student athletes the chance to play in an NFL stadium. Not every college football player gets to play on a big stage like Qualcomm, especially the Toreros, who are used to playing their home games in minimalist Torero Stadium. USD senior student Will Gonzalez understands how important this is for the players and University.

"Those guys are out there working every day and deserve it. It's a great opportunity to showcase their talent," Gonzalez said. "The players are excited to prove their worth on the field against this team."

Redshirt junior running back Jonah Hodges has high hopes for the team, and preparation is going to be key.

"The guys and I are really



Photo Courtesy of USD Athletics

The USD football team will prepare all offseason for the season opener against the San Diego State Aztecs. The team is excited about playing a good football team like San Diego State, but we are competing with State, but we are

challenging. "The last time we played a team around the same skill level as San Diego State was at Montana, and we didn't get to prove ourselves as we had hoped to," Hodges said. "SDSU has a terrific football program and will be one of the better teams we will play all year."

The outcome of the game will count towards both teams' records. Of course it doesn't hurt that the game also gives USD a chance to make a little dough from the standard hosting fees of San Diego State.

While the excitement and positive energy surrounding this upcoming sporting event remain at the forefront, the reality is that this game will be extremely

challenging. "The last time we played a team around the same skill level as San Diego State was at Montana, and we didn't get to prove ourselves as we had hoped to," Hodges said. "SDSU has a terrific football program and will be one of the better teams we will play all year."

The USD Toreros will undoubtedly have to play their very best. Despite the thrill of this opportunity, Hodges confesses that the competition is going to be much stronger than what they are used to.

"We are not ready to

focused and continuing to work which is getting us closer and closer every day," Hodges said.

The team's ambitions, enthusiasm about the game, and amount of time to prepare are all in their favor.

With the hard work and dedication that our boys put in on a daily basis, there's no doubt they will be prepared and ready to take on the Aztecs come game time. Not to mention the army of support these guys have between the faculty and staff, student body, friends and family, coaches and former players.



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